# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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## Near East & South Asia

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## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Arab League Council Session To Begin 10 Sep

#### Lebanese Foreign Minister Arrives

*NC0909153291 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1431 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz arrived in Cairo this afternoon to attend the 96th session of the Arab League Council, which is scheduled to begin 10 Sep and will continue for two days. [passage omitted]

#### Jordanian Foreign Minister Arrives

*NC0909162791 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—Jordanian Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Nusur arrived in Cairo this evening to attend the 96th session of the Arab League Council, which will begin in Cairo tomorrow. [passage omitted]

#### Iraqi Foreign Minister Arrives

*JN1009053191 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2054 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (INA)—Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn arrived in Cairo this evening to attend the 96th session of the Arab League Council to begin here tomorrow, Tuesday.

The foreign minister had left Accra this morning after heading Iraq's delegation to the 10th conference of the nonaligned countries' foreign ministers.

#### Iraqi Minister's Arrival Statement

*JN1009103191 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 10 Sep (INA)—Ahmad Husayn, foreign minister and head of the Iraqi delegation to the 10th conference of the Nonaligned Movement's foreign ministers, has said that the conference affirmed, during its meetings, the need to fully implement all Security Council resolutions on the Palestine question.

In a statement on his arrival here from Accra, the foreign minister added that the conference endorsed a paragraph stipulating that the solution to the Palestine question might have been possible had the international community, represented by the Security Council, applied the same criteria it applied during the Zionist-Atlantic aggression against Iraq and expressed the same political will.

The foreign minister noted that the movement also reiterated its support for the Palestinian intifadah, and considered the immigration of Jews to the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, a blatant violation of Security Council resolutions and the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

The foreign minister affirmed that the Accra conference was an opportunity for the Iraqi delegation to explain in detail the difficult humanitarian situation and the tough conditions faced by the Iraqi people as a result of the economic blockade, despite Iraq's commitment to implement Security Council resolutions. [passage omitted]

### Iranian Ties With GCC Experience 'Upward Trend'

*LD0809024191 Tehran IRNA in English 1718 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] Abu Dhabi (UAE), Sep. 7, IRNA—Secetary General of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council [(P)GCC] Abdullah Beshara was quoted on Saturday as describing "an upward trend" in relations between Iran and (P)GCC member states.

"The foreign ministers of (P)GCC member states and Iran are to hold a joint meeting in New York this month to draft the framework of understanding between the seven countries," Beshara said in an interview published by the Abu Dhabi-based Arabic daily AL-ITTIHAD.

Such understanding is based on promotion of relations, good neighbourliness, non-interference in one another's internal affairs and joint cooperation to restore peace and security to the region, he said.

AL-ITTIHAD also quoted the (P)GCC secretary general as terming the Islamic republic as "the biggest partner" of (P)GCC members in determining the future of the region and as underlining the need for the seven countries to achieve understanding for their future cooperation.

The six countries which make up the in the (P)GCC—Oman, UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia—are expected to reach a final agreement for an all-out understanding with the Islamic Republic, he told the daily.

### Bahrain Group To Attend GCC Economic Meeting

*JN1009062691 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] Manama, 10 Sep (WAKH)—Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Karim, Bahrain's finance and national economy minister, left the country this morning for Riyadh to head Bahrain's delegation to the 29th meeting of the financial and economic cooperation committee of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], which will begin there later today. The meeting will discuss a number of issues related to financial and economic cooperation among the GCC states.

The minister is accompanied by 'Isa Abu-Rashid, under secretary of the Finance and National Economy Ministry, Rashid al-Mi'raj, assistant under secretary for economic affairs, Hamid al-'Arradi, director of economic relations, and 'Abdallah al-Ban'ali, the minister's secretary.

### Palestinian, Jordanian Experts To Meet 10 Sep

*JN0809183591 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] A well-informed source in Amman has said that a joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee of experts will meet in the Jordanian capital on 10 September to discuss the formation of a joint delegation to the peace conference.

Meanwhile, preparations are under way to convene the Palestine National Council in Algiers on 23 September. [passage omitted]

### Egyptian-Palestinian Committee 'Pressure Group'

*NC0609135791 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 4 Sep 91 p 1*

[Text] A joint Egyptian-Palestinian committee will begin meetings in Cairo within the next few days to discuss issues pertaining to the Palestinian issue and the international peace conference.

During their meeting in Banghazi in Libya last Wednesday, President Mubarak and Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat agreed to leave the detailed discussion of these issues to the Arab foreign ministers during their Arab League meeting.

Libyan diplomatic sources note that the committee might include, in addition to Egypt and Palestine, representatives from other Arab states such as Libya, Syria, and probably Jordan. The goal of this committee is to develop an Arab pressure group during the peace conference planned for October, as well as to stand up to Israeli attempts to stall for time and distract the conference from its designed purpose.

In another development, there are reports that President Mubarak has met with Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir of Sudan in the presence of Libyan Leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

In another development, Yasir 'Arafat denied in exclusive remarks to the press that a mini-summit including Egypt, Morocco, Libya, Palestine, and Jordan will be held in Cairo. He said the Cairo meetings only will include the foreign ministers.

## Palestinian

### Commentary on Bargaining for Peace Tactics

*LD1009004491 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Station commentary]

[Text] It seems that the gurantees of loans totalling $10 billion that Israel asked from the United States to accommodate the new Soviet immigrants and implant Arab territories with more settlements moved U.S.-Israeli relations into the circle of public confrontation. This confrontation makes the U.S. Government face the real test regarding the way in which it will deal with the Israeli demand. This demand appears to be a kind of robbery aimed at forcing the United States to provide bribes for Israel in return for its acceptance to attend the peace conference in October without having to respond to the peace demands which, it is hoped, will be the outcome of this conference.

What adds to the intensity of the confrontation is that it is hapenening just days before the visit of U.S. Secretray of State James Baker to the region. Baker's visit is the last one before the peace conference next month. He is expected to complete the finishing touches and to assure himself of the desire of all sides to attend this conference, which can not succeed if any among the parties concerned is absent.

The leaders of Israel, who are finding themselves forced to sit around the table of the October conference to decide along with the other sides that will attend the conference, including the PLO, on the resolutions of international legitimacy—namely, resolutions 242 and 338, which call for Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied land. We say that the leaders of Israel will try to obtain the maximum privileges and financial loans as a price for attending the conference.

If the U.S. Government pays this price, it will lose its role as a mediator trying to bring together the conflicting parties in order to find a suitable solution to the crisis. This is because to pay gurantees to Israel means to agree on the policy of settlement, a matter that counters the goals of the conference and contradicts the principles of international legitimacy, on whose bases this conference is to take place.

Israel, alongside its biggest ally, have made the issue of Palestinian representation at the October conference a thorny matter and an obstacle threatening to sabotage the conference. They will blame the Palestinians for the repercussions of this failure, despite the fact that the Palestinian representation is a right stipulated by the resolutions of the international legitimacy that have recognized the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The issue of financial guarantees to absorb the immigrants puts the the United States in a sensitive position, as it is no longer acceptable for it to continue talking about the issue of representation and Jerusalem as obstacles on the path of peace. The real obstacles on this path are of Israel's creation, and the world bears witness to this.

Stemming from this, even if we consider Bush's statement regarding the postponment of examining the issue of loans to Israel as a positive step on the path of exerting pressure on the leaders of Israel, we also believe that this step is very small and not sufficient to make Israel refrain from its obstinacy and respond to the resolutions of international legitimacy. It is not a hidden fact that the U.S. Administration, with its good intentions, has all the possibilities to allow it to force Shamir to respond to the peace requirements and to refrain from creating obstacles on the path toward peace.

## Algeria

### FIS Leaders Begin Hunger Strike in Prison

*LD0909150191 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Citing one of the lawyers of the detained Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] leaders, REUTER reports that the FIS leaders yesterday began a hunger strike demanding political prisoner status and an independent investigation into the June events. They also demanded to be kept in touch with their party in view of the legality of this party, and demanded the right to continue leading and directing their party from prison.

As is known, these leaders were charged with preparing, planning, and organizing a conspiracy against the security of the state during the events of last June.

### Hachani Urges Release of Political Prisoners

*LD0909212991 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] In a statement today to APS after his meeting with Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali, last Friday, Mr. Abdelkader Hachani, chairman of the FIS [Islamic Salvation Front] national transitional executive bureau, said that FIS's aim of that meeting was to put the responsibility for clearing the political atmosphere on the shoulders of the prime minister. Mr. Hachani also added that he stressed in particular the necessity of releasing all the political prisoners, reinstating sacked workers, and compensating those harmed by and the victims of the events through a political resolution.

He added that the fulfilment of these conditions would allow FIS to trust the government's good faith in conducting fair and clean elections.

As for the draft electoral law, Mr. Hachani said that FIS emphasized that the problem was not one of laws but a problem of accepting the principle of alternation of power. He pointed out that FIS has commissioned a special committee to study the government [proposals], and that it will submit its proposals to the government very soon.

### Parties React to Draft Electoral Law

*LD0909210891 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] [Announcer] The political parties received the draft electoral law, which is expected to be submitted to the National People's Assembly soon. A preliminary reading of this new draft law with Rachida Hamadi:

[Hamadi] The new thing in the draft electoral law is fixing the number of seats at 370, each of which represents 80,000 persons. If the population of the same constituency exceeds 80,000 by 30,000 or more, another seat will be added. In the southern Wilayas, according to the previous [current] electoral law a single seat represents 30,000 persons, and if the population of a southern constituency exceeds 30,000 persons by 15,000 or more then an additional seat would be allocated for the constituency. Therefore these Wilayas would be represented by at least two deputies in the National People's Assembly.

The draft law also talks about voting by proxy. It specified that none of the spouses could vote on behalf of the other without proper proxy. The draft law fixes the candidate's age at 27 years or more.

As for the independent candidates, the head of the administrative committee can investigate only 25 [nomination] signatures out of the required 500 signatures. All the 500 signatures were subject to investigation according to the previous law.

[Announcer] After receiving the draft electoral law, the political parties started to record preliminary reactions to it. The Algerian Renewal party; the Party of Environment and Freedom; the Liberal Social Party; the Popular Unity Party; the National Salvation Front; the Social Democratic Party; the Movement for Democracy in Algeria; the Socialist Vanguard Party; and the Union of Forces for Progress expressed in different statements their general satisfaction with the qualitative amendments of the laws.

Other parties recorded their reservations. The Movement for Justice and Development, Majd, wondered about the absence of a third candidate in the second stage. Both of the Movement for Democracy of the Islamic Salvation Front, Hamas Movement; and El-Nahda Movement criticized the chapter of the draft law on proxy. The Socialist Forces Front, FFS, raised the point of the problem of representing the emigrants. The Union of Democratic Forces said that the draft law was a defiance of public opinion.

These were some of the reactions which we reviewed in general. The majority of the parties, however, may submit their opinions and proposals in writing to the government.

## Egypt

### Foreign Ministry Refutes Velayati's Remarks

*NC0909135391 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1247 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has refuted the content of remarks attributed to Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in Accra this morning. Velayati allegedly said that Egypt sent messages to his country via mediators asking Iran to restore diplomatic relations with it and that his country rejected the request because Egypt is bound by the Camp David accords.

The responsible source said that the statement attributed to Velayati is far from the truth, and he asserted that Egypt has not asked and will not ask Iran or any other country to restore diplomatic relations with it because it is not concerned with such issues. He added that Egypt's interest lies with the major issues of cooperation among nations, security, and peace—both in the world and in the region where it lives.

The responsible source went on to say that Egypt is only seeking to improve relations with those countries that wish to do the same, whose conduct and statements demonstrate responsibility, and who enjoy the international community's appreciation and respect.

He said: We did not expect the Iranian foreign minister to utter such lies, because we assumed that he was familiar with the circumstances that surrounded the establishment of interests section bureaus in both countries.

He added that it is incomprehensible that Velayati would drag the peace accords into the debate. He said this is a pathetic thing to do, as it is not within his or any other party's jurisdiction to question Egypt's signing of an agreement with any country—because this is a fundamental aspect of Egyptian sovereignty. The source concluded by saying that, in his zeal, the Iranian foreign minister apparently forgot that he must be the last person to speak of the Camp David accords or any other agreement, because his country established covert relations with Israel and several other countries and has not had the necessary courage or honesty to bring them into the open. He said Iran's public declarations have consistently contradicted its covert actions and noted that this is the behavior typical of weaklings and hypocrites.

### Ghali: Talks on Track; Soviet Role Important

*NC1009071091 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] Dr. Butrus Ghali, deputy prime minister for foreign relations, has said that the Middle East peace conference will be held in Washington next month despite last-minute difficulties.

In an interview with the BBC broadcast last night, he added that some obstacles to the peace conference do exist, but that the new cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union will help eliminate these obstacles. The two superpowers, he noted, have agreed on the importance of convening this conference and on beginning a new phase of negotiations to bring about a peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian issue.

Ghali stressed the Soviet Union's role in the peace process, noting that the Soviet Union is a superpower, in terms of population or its political point of view in addition to its nuclear capability. Despite its domestic difficulties, the Soviet Union is able to play an important part in the region, he said.

### Papers View Bush Stand on Israeli Loan Request

*NC1009074791 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0335 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[From the ' Press Review" program]

[Text] Commenting on Israel's hard-line position toward Washington, AL-AHRAM notes Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's reassertion of his country's intention to settle Jews in the occupied Arab territories.

In a statement marking the new Jewish year, Shamir said these territories are Israel's property and that if Israel refrains from building Jewish settlements, it would in fact be relinquishing its right to these territories.

AL-AKHBAR also comments on the issue in its editorial. It says Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has decided to declare war on U.S. President George Bush, and that he declared general mobilization of the Jewish pressure groups in the United States and the fifth column of Tel Aviv's agents within the U.S. Congress because Bush dared to delay discussion of Shamir's request for $10 billion. The paper adds that the Israeli prime minister considered this postponement a flagrant insult to his government.

The paper continues: Perhaps we do not exaggerate when we say that if Shamir is allowed to win his war on U.S. President George Bush, this will have grave consequences not only for the policy of the largest and strongest state in the world, but also for what could happen as a result of missing the current peace opportunity, which might not recur. Bush will lose much of his standing in the international arena and even within his own country. No matter what the direct result is, we do not believe this will benefit Israel in the long run.

AL-AKHBAR concludes its editorial by saying that the Arab world should not content itself as usual with being just an observer, and that the Arab leaders must find some means of backing the U.S. President in his new battle.

### Israeli Bid To 'Foil' Peace Efforts Criticized

*NC0909182591 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Commentary by Mahmud Marzuq: "Shamir's Plan To Foil the Peace Efforts"]

[Text] The battle between Israel and U.S. President George Bush's administration, expected throughout the summer, has begun. It concerns Israel's request for $10 billion in loan guarantees to enable it to absorb the Soviet immigrants. Israel and its friends in the United States opened fire on the U.S. Administration from all sides after it asked for action on the Israeli request to be postponed. Israel's friends are seeking to include the loan guarantees request in the foreign credit bill that the U.S. Congress will discuss during its new session, which began today. They are doing this even though U.S. President

George Bush believes strongly that his administration must not offer these guarantees unless Yitzhaq Shamir's government makes an unequivocal promise to halt the settlement program in the occupied territories. Shamir defiantly refuses to do so, and it is this point that has given rise to the tug-of-war between the Bush administration and Shamir's government. Israel, meanwhile, has hinted publicly that, if the U.S. Administration opposes the Israeli request and gets involved in a battle with Congress, it will not attend the proposed peace conference in October.

What is important here is the significance of Israel's insistence on requesting this substantial amount of assistance at this particular time—before October—and its intentional declaration that the loan guarantees for several billion dollars will be allocated for building settlements to absorb new immigrants. Furthermore, senior Israeli officials have said that the settlement program, meaning the construction of settlements in the occupied territories, will continue regardless of whether or not they get the U.S. aid. The meaning is clear: The Israeli Government is intentionally seeking a showdown with George Bush's administration before the peace conference convenes and is doing so because it has discovered that the United States is willing to exert pressure on it and, at the same time, that the Jewish lobby in Washington is ready to resist this pressure. If it becomes clear that it can circumvent the U.S. pressure, then it will be able to welcome the peace conference. If it discovers that the opposite is the case, it will not fail to find another way of undermining the conference before it meets.

For all these reasons, Israel's policies must be confronted by a firm and decisive stand by the United States and the international community which puts an end to these practices and compels the Israeli leaders to comply with international legitimacy. The Middle East is standing on the rim of a destructive volcano, and its danger must not be discounted because it is no less serious than the other regional issues that have caught the world's attention. An eruption in this region will remove any hope of finding the peace that the new world order is looking forward to achieving in various parts of the world.

We see a danger to U.S. and international credibility and to the chance for peace in the intransigent, procrastinating, and maneuvering Israeli stand because, when Israel rejects the U.S. peace efforts and the international peace conference, it is blatantly defying and provoking the entire international community. This defiance requires the United States and the world to do all it can to confront this policy in order to uphold peace, international legitimacy, and the principles of justice and right.

## Libya

### NATO Said Exploiting Absence of Warsaw Pact

*LD0909195791 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1540 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Tripoli, 9 Sep (JANA)—News indicated that NATO's naval forces will today start a series of maneuvers in the Mediterranean region which will last until 7 October. According to a communique issued by NATO, these maneuvers, in which nine countries from the Alliance will take part, will be under the command of a Turkish officer and aim at testing the Alliance's naval capabilities, and demonstrating the technology of a number of the Atlantic countries in the Mediterranean region which, according to the communique, is of extreme importance to NATO forces.

The JANA international affairs editor commented [words indistinct] that the announcement of these maneuvers comes at a time when the world is witnessing the disintegration of the pole which was equal in its strength to NATO, i.e. the Warsaw Pact. This implies that NATO has started to exploit the absence of that pole for implementing its military plans in the Mediterranean region. The international affairs editor adds that the announcement of these maneuvers raises a question which could be put as follows: Since the ingredients of tension have come to an end, according to the West's allegations, why is there an escalation of military activities and the creation of new centers of tension for which humanity has no need. He recalls what the brother leader of the revolution has submitted and called for on many occasions, i.e. to make the Mediterranean a lake of peace free of all military manifestations and foreign presence. This is the civilized logic which stems from the humanitarian responsibility, especially the one which calls for the embodiment of a civilized picture which emphasizes cooperation and integration between the peoples of this region which has never thought, throughout its historical epochs and the consecutive civilizations it has witnessed, that it would one threatened one day by foreign fleets and battleships.

The Mediterranean region has witnessed a series of popular demonstrations and protests through which the peoples of the region have expressed their strong rejection of the foreign military presence in the Mediterranean and [expressed the wish that] it becomes a region of security and peace. The international affairs editor emphasised that history had [word indistinct] the peoples of this region, that it was a region for exchanging knowledge, and and a peaceful contact between the peoples within the framework of love and mutual respect away from the policies of imposing hegemony, muscle-flexing, and parading fleets and military battleships, military maneuvers, testing capabilities, and experimenting with them.

### Geneva Meeting on Biological Weapons Viewed

*LD1009103491 Tripoli JANA in English 0823 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] Tripoli, al-Fatih [September] 10 (JANA)—News agencies reported that delegates from 17 states started a meeting in Geneva yesterday to look into the international agreement on germ warfare signed in 1972.

World news agencies reported that the meeting, which will last for three weeks, was aimed at finding the best

means to ban the production, development and stockpiling of germ-warfare [weapons].

JANA's political editor commented on the holding of such meeting by saying:

Great Jamahariyah had called in the past, and is always calling, for the need to get rid of weapons of mass destruction all over the world. The most recent call from Great Jamahariyah in this respect came from colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the revolution, in the speech he gave on the occasion of the arrival of the Great Manmade River's waters.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi announced in front of delegates from more than a third of the world's states who attended the celebration of that occasion saying: "The police of fleets, the policy of starvation and the policy of terrorism cannot build the future of the world because the future of the world is built by peace, built by liberty, equality, and respect amongst the sons of the nations on earth—this [words indistinct] the future of the world and building civilization."

The political editor went on to say: Great Jamahiriyah's calls for getting rid of weapons of total destruction were for the nations of the world to get rid of the states of terror created by such because Great Jamahiriyah absolutely believes that this world must be dominated by peace based upon justice and equality. It is driven in that by its basic principles represented in the grand green document of human rights and in its just project in calling for direct democracy which was mentioned in the Green Book...

The editor added: The basic ingredients from which the belief of Great Jamahiriyan stems to remove and end the weapons of mass destruction and saving the nations of the world from its catastrophes are firm and unchanging ingredients which cannot be contradicted because such ingredients constitute a civilised humane doctrine for Great Jamahiriyah.

The editor concluded his commentary by saying: According to such vision, any speaker talking about removing all weapons of mass destruction must believe in the need for applying international laws and legislations to all the world's states in a balanced way without favouring anyone, without turning a blind eye towards one side or another, because that will confirm the principle of mutual respect and becomes a civilised line which denounces race discrimination attitudes.

### Security Protocol Signed With Chad

*LD0609123391 Tripoli JANA in English 0839 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] Tripoli, al-Fatih [September] 6 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—A protocol agreement for cooperation in security fields between great Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Chad was signed yesterday in Tripoli.

The cooperation protocol agreement which was signed by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice and Maldoum Abbas, the minister of state and the interior in the Republic of Chad, (?includes) bilateral cooperation in the field of security and measures related to the entry, exit and residence of citizens in the other country, and exchanging information and cooperation in security fields.

Maldoum Abbas, the Chadian minister of state and the interior, gave a statement after the signing of the agreement between great Jamahiriyah and Chad. He expressed congratulations to the Libyan Arab people and the leader of the revolution on the flowing of the water of the Great Manmade River into al-Qardabiyah and Selloog [as received] reservoirs.

He also expressed thanks for the efforts being exerted to help Chadian citizens and the good treatment the Chadians receive in great Jamahiriyah.

### Al-Qadhdhafi Wants To Lift Egyptian Papers Ban

*LD0609102491 Tripoli JANA in English 0832 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] Tripoli, al-Fatih [September] 6 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—JANA came to know that Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the revolution, had asked the General People's Committee for Information and Culture to lift the ban on the distribution of Egyptian newspapers and magazines inside great Jamahiriyah in a way that does not contradict with the resolutions of the bureau of Zionist enemy boycott.

In a statement to JANA, Eng. 'Ali Milad Abu-Jaziyah, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture, asserted that the committee will hold a meeting next week to study the issue and decide upon it.

## Tunisia

### 'Arafat Briefs Ben Ali on PNC Preparations

*LD0909183191 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali received at noon today Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, with the attendance of Messrs. Habib Ben Yahia, the minister of foreign affairs, and Hakam Bal'awi, member of the Central Committee of the Fatah movement.

Abu-'Ammar ['Arafat] stated after the audience that his meeting with his excellency the president took place at an important stage and came within the framework of the continuous consultations about all the issues related to Palestinian matters or the steps and developments concerning the scheduled peace conference. He added that it was necessary to continue the consultations and the exchange of views with his excellency the president on these issues, particularly since U.S. Secretary of State

James Baker intends to carry out a new tour within the framework of preparations for the peace conference on the Middle East.

Mr. Yasir 'Arafat pointed out that he discussed with his excellency the president the joint action and its importance in pushing forward the peace process in a way that secures the interests of the Arab nation and enables the Palestinian people to secure their inalienable national rights, at the forefront of which is the city of Jerusalem, which have been adopted by the international legitimacy [UN resolutions], Arab summits, and the Palestine National Council [PNC].

Abu-'Ammar said on the other hand that he informed his excellency the president about the preparations which are currently taking place for the convening of the PNC in Algiers on the 23rd of this month. He reiterated his thanks for the stance of the Tunisian president, government and people in support of the Palestinian people's struggle and blessed intifadah.

### Ben Ali Satisfied With Progress on U.S. Ties

*LD0309215591 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Sep 91*

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali expressed his satisfaction with the positive development of Tunisian-U.S. relations. He also reaffirmed his interest in developing these relations in a manner that would consolidate bilateral relations and strengthen mutual interests.

This was said during a reception this morning in Carthage Palace for Ismail Khelil, Tunisia's ambassador in Washington, who gave the president a report on the activities of the Embassy and the course of relations between Tunisia and the United States.

### New, Large Arms Cache Found in Tunis

*LD0609143791 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] A new and large arms cache has been discovered in a building in the Tunisian capital. It is the second discovery of its kind in less than a year. Tunisian authorities confirm that they have arrested sympathizers of the Islamic fundamentalist movement, Ennahda. However, the number of people arrested was not specified.

### Details on Cache Reported

*LD0709204791 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] An authorized source at the Interior Ministry informed us of the following:

Following the announced involvement of the Ennahda Movement in hatching plans of conspiracy in order to seize power by violence and terrorism, and the hunting of fugitive elements, during the past few days arms and ammunitions caches, and workshops for manufacturing weapons and ammunitions have been uncovered. Among the items seized are the following:

1. More than 100 rifles.
2. A large number of revolvers and ammunition.
3. A large number of hand grenades.
4. Timebombs equipped with fuses.
5. Hundreds of explosive charges with all their equipment.
6. A large number of local and imported daggers.
7. A large quantity of gunpowder.
8. A large quantity of locally made ammunition.
9. Hundreds of masks which are usually used by terrorists.
10. A large number of loud hailers.
11. A large quantity of electronic equipment for precision measurement and calibration.
12. Various chemical substances.
13. Models of specific targets prepared for attacks.

It is known that the matter is still the subject of close investigation.

## Kuwait

### Envoy on Amir's Visit to U.S., Security Pact

*LD0909115291 London KUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Sep (KUNA)— Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah, ambassador of the State of Kuwait to the United States, said that special arrangements are currently under way for a visit by His Highness Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah to Washington this month. The ambassador announced this in an interview with a correspondent of the "Good Evening Kuwait" radio program, which will be broadcast this evening, before his departure for Washington.

The ambassador pointed out that his visit to Kuwait has been a very short one, devoted to matters relating to the defense cooperation agreement between the United States and Kuwait and other issues connected with relations between the two countries at various levels. He asserted that he had been able to accomplish all of these tasks. The ambassador expressed his hope that the agreement will be signed during the next few weeks.

Regarding the U.S. political leadership's reactions to the security agreement, he said the formulation of the agreement was completed two months ago. There were numerous consultations while he was in Washington, all of which were connected with the agreement, and the two parties arrived at a final formulation that would serve them both, he stated.

Concerning the signing of the security agreement in Washington, the Kuwaiti ambassador said he will make arrangements for this during the next two weeks. He added that a visit by Defense Minister Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim to Washington at a later date will also be arranged.

### Primakov To Make 'Important' Visit 15 Sep

*LD0909121191 London KUNA in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Moscow, 9 Sep (KUNA)—Academician Yevgeniy Primakov, the personal representative of the Soviet president, will lead a big Soviet delegation on a visit to Kuwait on 15 September

KUNA learned today that Primakov will convey a message from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to His Highness Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Robert Mirkoryan, who is an assistant to the Soviet president's envoy, said that Primakov's visit comes in response to an invitation from Shaykh Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Mirkoryan described Primakov's visit to Kuwait as " important," noting that Primakov is the first high-ranking Soviet figure to visit Kuwait since its liberation from the Iraqi occupation.

Primakov's talks in the Kuwaiti capital will focus on means of developing economic cooperation relations between the two countries.

In his tour, which begins tomorrow, Primakov will also visit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Iran, and Turkey. He will deliver personal messages from President Gorbachev to the leaders of these countries and will also discuss the development of political and economic cooperation in light of the transformations currently under way in the Soviet Union.

### Amir Invites Iranian President To Visit

*LD1009003291 London KUNA in Arabic 1310 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 9 Sep (KUNA)—The State of Kuwait announced that the signing of a defense cooperation treaty with the United States will take place within three weeks.

This came in a statement by Dhari 'Abdallah al-'Uthman, Kuwaiti minister of state for cabinet affairs, after the Kuwaiti cabinet meeting chaired by Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister.

Al-'Uthman noted that the cabinet was informed about a message sent by the Amir to Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The message includes an invitation to the Iranian president to visit Kuwait in order to consolidate bilateral relations. The cabinet also studied a message received by the Amir from the president of Guinea-Bissau. [passage omitted]

### Amir Returns From UAE Visit 8 Sep

*LD0809175791 London KUNA in Arabic 1638 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Sep (KUNA)—His Highness the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, returned here this evening after a short visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] during which he met his brother the head of the UAE, Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan.

### Cooperation Communique With South Korea Issued

*LD0809060691 London KUNA in Arabic 1702 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] Kuwait City, 7 Sep (KUNA)—Kuwait and South Korea have called for the establishment of a close cooperation between them, particularly in the security field. This call was made during talks by Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Ahmad al-Hammud al-Jabir held here today with the South Korean ambassador to Kuwait. A communique released by the Interior Ministry said that the two sides also discussed ways to establish cooperation between the two countries in all fields. The communique quotes the South Korean ambassador as saying that he appreciates the efforts being made in the reconstruction of Kuwait and the preservation of its internal security.

### New Operations for Satellite Station Announced

*LD0809141391 London KUNA in Arabic 1152 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 8 Sep, (KUNA)—The acting undersecretary of the Kuwaiti ministry of communications, engineer Sulayman al-Rumi, announced the operation of a new satellite station to extend developed services in addition to telephone services including telex, fax, cables, electronic post, long-distance communications, sending messages, and other modern services.

He indicated in a talk to KUNA today that most of these services are to be extended to customers during this month, and valued the fact that these services can be used by the personal computer of the subscriber as he can make available at the same time the use of apparatus related to all these services. [passage omitted]

## Saudi Arabia

### Saudi Media Praises Bush Stand on Israeli Loans

*LD0809094391 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0310 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 8 Sep (SPA)—[passage omitted] Today our local papers analyze and comment on international and regional topics in their editorials. 'Ukaz said: U.S. President George Bush's firm stance to ask the Congress to postpone consideration of Israel's request for $10 billion of loan guarantees to settle Jewish emigrants is a positive stride toward bolstering peace efforts in the region and dealing correctly with the intransigent Israeli stance toward the peace efforts.

The paper affirmed that President Bush and his administration, which are immensely popular with the American people and do not owe anything to Israel or to the Jews, proved that they will not tolerate any pressure and that their aim is to bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East region, a task which they ought to shoulder given America's international role in the light of current international developments, which have proved the world's need for security, peace, and stability on a just basis in accordance with international legality.

The paper pointed out that the entire world is aware that money requested by Shamir's administration is only needed to continue the policy of settlement and Judaization of the occupied Arab territories. Therefore, allowing such a policy will only bolster its intransigent stance in rejecting all peace efforts, and help it to go ahead with its expansionist policies. [passage omitted]

### King Fahd Emphasizes Shar'iah, Views USSR

*LD0909201691 Riyadh SPA in English 1909 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Jeddah, Sept 9, SPA—Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al'Aziz presided a regular weekly session of the Council of Ministers at al-Salam Palace here this afternoon.

At the outset of the session, Information Minister 'ali al-Sha'ir said King Fahd reviewed some of the internal matters that have direct relations with services extended by the government through different administrative bodies to citizens. Some of these matters pertains to economic and organizational affairs as well as developing and strengthening specialist departments, which are concerned with settlement of disputes. "The custodian of the two holy mosques has assured that the Islamic Shari'ah remains the rule and the base for all government systems. The Saudi monarch has affirmed that we cannot accept any rule in governmental bodies that contravenes with the Islamic precepts," the information minister said.

King Fahd has renewed his directives to all their highnesses and the ministers to double their efforts in facilitating rapidly requests of all citizens and said it is necessary to compensate all who are hard-working and punish careless people in all sectors.

The Saudi monarch said this state, ever since its formation, had been giving top concern to interests of the citizens and exerting efforts to ensure a good life for them in all spheres. 'From this stand, every official should continue to show concern in this context with constant follow up of interests of citizens according to instructions of the Islamic religion,' King Fahd added.

The cabinet, then, was briefed on the most important and latest developents in Arab and international arenas as well as current events in the Soviet Union, the information minister said.

In this context, 'ali al-Sha'ir said the cabinet expressed its relief over changes that have surfaced in the Soviet regime as they are expected to ensure welfare for their people under the shadow of freedom, which they had been looking for. The information [minster] added that the cabinet expressed its good wishes to the Soviet leaders for a prosperous future.

The information minister said King Fahd briefed [the cabinet] also on his meeting, talks and communications during the week, which included a meeting with Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jab'r al-Ahmad al-Sabah in Jeddah a few days ago. The cabinet was also informed about contents of messages received by the monarch from Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and the Tanzanian president, which were delivered to him by Tunisian Foreign Affairs Minister Habib Ben Yahia and Tanzanian foreign and international cooperation minister Ahmed Hassan Derba respectively.

Al-Sha'ir said the cabinet discussed other issues on the agenda of the session and approved an Arab cooperation agreement in the sphere of arranging and facilitating relief process according to the attached formula to the resolution and prepare a royal decree in this connection.

## United Arab Emirates

### Kuwaiti Amir al-Sabah Arrives for Visit 8 Sep

*JN0809111091 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah arrived in Abu Dhabi this morning on a visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE].

UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan headed those welcoming the Kuwaiti amir. The Kuwaiti amir was also welcomed by senior UAE civil and military officials.

### Meets President Al Nuhayyan

*JN0809143691 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1359 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 Sep (WAKH)—President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan of the United Arab Emirates [UAE] has met with visiting Amir of Kuwait His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah.

Following the meeting, the UNITED ARAB EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY quoted an official source as saying the two talked about bilateral relations and exchanged views about regional developments and how to increase cohesion among the states of the region.

The amir of Kuwait expressed the appreciation of the Government and people of Kuwait for the genuine feelings of the UAE president and people during the ordeal of the Iraqi invasion and for the assistance the UAE offered to end the injustices inflicted upon the brotherly Kuwait people.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid stressed that the UAE will do all it can to support Kuwait so that it may resume its pioneering and constructive role in the interest of Gulf cooperation and regional development.

### President Al Nuhayyan Leaves for Paris 9 Sep

*JN0909103991 Abu Dhabi United Arab Emirates Radio Network in Arabic 0930 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan left the country for Paris this morning under God's protection and care on an official 4-day visit to the French Republic at the invitation of French President Francois Mitterrand. [passage omitted]

## Yemen

### Iranian Foreign Minister Begins 2-Day Visit

### Conveys Message on Peace Talks

*LD0809171591 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] A message from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani was submitted to Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih by Foreign Minister Velayati today. The president of Yemen reiterated his country's desire and inclination to strengthen bilateral ties, saying: We must begin a new chapter in our relations. In connection with the holding of a conference on Palestine in Tehran [planned for October], Mr. 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih said: The conference will undoubtedly increase the domestic and international credibility of Palestinians and it will have a positive effect on the morale of Palestinians and on the Arab world. He added: The effect of the conference on the Palestinians will be to such an extent that the level can probably not be predicted now. The Yemeni president expressed the hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to play its positive role in the world of Islam, and he said that Yemen will support its efforts.

Mr. Velayati had arrived in Sanaa earlier today on his way back from Accra after taking part in the Nonaligned Movement foreign ministers meeting.

### Meets Salih 8 Sep

*JN0809184191 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, today received the Iranian foreign minister, brother 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and his delegation. They spoke about brotherly ties between our country and the Islamic Republic of Iran, regional and world developments of interest to our Islamic nation, and coordination between the two friendly countries to advance Islamic solidarity. The Iranian foreign minister conveyed greetings from brother President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi- Rafsanjani to his brother, Chairman Salih. He also conveyed the Iranian president's good wishes for our people and for still better bilateral ties. The Iranian foreign minister told the chairman his country is anxious to develop the historical ties with our country and to stimulate bilateral cooperation to the satisfaction of the two brotherly peoples and their common interests. He noted that mutual visits should help advance bilateral relations and fruitful cooperation.

The brother chairman voiced his satisfaction over the continually developing relations between the Yemen and Iran, reflecting a shared will to consolidate their historical ties and deepen cooperation in various areas. He noted that the two countries are playing a significant role in promoting regional security, stability, and peace, as well as intra-Islamic solidarity in the interest of meeting all challenges. The chairman of the Presidential Council asked the Iranian foreign minister to convey his best wishes to his brother, President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The president also wished further progress and development for bilateral ties.

Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, our country's ambassador to Iran, and the Iranian ambassador in Sanaa attended the meeting.

The Iranian foreign minister arrived in Sanaa earlier today, leading a delegation on an official two-day visit to our country.

### Confers With al-Iryani

*LD0909111791 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] The first official round of talks between the foreign ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Yemen concerning regional, Islamic, and Palestinian issues were held in Sanaa last night.

During the talks, Mr. Velayati, our foreign minister, referred to issues concerning the Persian Gulf, especially in the wake of the Kuwaiti crisis and in light of the presence of alien forces in the region. He said: Degrading solutions to the Palestinian issue have been the most prominent outcome of the Kuwaiti crisis. He added: Because of the absence of cohesion and authority in the Arab and Islamic worlds, the European world and the Zionist regime have embarked on imposing their views. There has been no sign of any resistance or opposition to this.

For his part, Mr. al-Iryani, the Yemeni foreign minister, confirmed Mr. Velayati's remarks. He stated: The proposed Middle East peace plan is for the vanquished. This plan has been accepted by those who claimed victory in the Persian Gulf crisis.

In this round of talks, Mr. Velayati expounded the recent efforts of Iran and Pakistan in respect of the Afghan issue and the establishment of unity amongst the Afghan mojahedin groups. He also alluded to the UN secretary general's visit to Iran, and his discussions with Iran and Pakistan. Developments in the Soviet Union and the quest for independence by that country's republics, in particular the need to pay attention to the fate of the republics inhabited by Muslims, and recent developments in Ethiopia and Somalia were also reviewed during the talks.

### Meets With Vice President al-Bid

*LD0909164191 Tehran IRNA in English 1557 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Tehran, Sep 9, IRNA—The unity of the two Yemens was a turning point in the political history of Southern Arabia, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told Yemeni Vice-President 'Ali Salim al-Bid in Sanaa today. Velayati said this unity requires the solidarity and cooperation of all the Yemeni people for the preservatio of their common Islamic values. He also expressed hope that world Muslims would back efforts for vindicating the rights of the Palestinian people.

Al-Bid spoke of rapid developments in the region and in the world at large, and said the unity of the Yemen would accelerate expansion of ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

### Views Outcome of Talks, Departs

*JN0909131891 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Brother Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, left Sanaa today following a two-day visit to our country.

In a predeparture statement to the YEMENI NEWS AGENCY, SABA', the Iranian foreign minister said he had met with the chairman and vice chairman of the Presidential Council, and the foreign minister. He noted that he discussed with them bilateral relations and regional and international issues. He said that the two countries agreed to promote and expand economic, political, cultural, industrial, and trade ties. Officials of the two countries would also exchange visits, he added. Velayati said the Yemeni-Iranian committee will meet in the near future, God willing.

Velayati was seen off by Foreign Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al- Iryani; Dr. Ahmad 'Ali Muhammad, our ambassador in Tehran; Foreign Ministry officials, and the Iranian ambassador in Sanaa.

## Sudanese Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

### Meets al-Iryani 7 Sep

*JN0709162991 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] Yemeni-Sudanese talks were held at the Foreign Ministry at noon today. Brother Foreign Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani is heading our country's delegation and brother Foreign Minister 'Ali Ahmad Sahlul is heading the Sudanese delegation..

Opening the talks, brother Dr. al-Iryani welcomed the Sudanese delegation and said he hoped the meeting would further entrench political, economic, and social cooperation between the two countries. He praised the achievements realized so far in bilateral cooperation through the coordination committee. The brother minister referred to the challenges facing the region in today's world, particularly in the Horn of Africa, and the fierce onslaught not only targetting Sudan, but all the Arab and Islamic nations. The minister stressed the importance of coordination between the two countries, and how this meeting should bear the results hoped for by the two fraternal peoples.

For his part, the Sudanese foreign minister said he was pleased with the warm hospitality and also noted the importance of coordination between the two countries and the need to work collectively in confronting the fierce attack against Arabism and Islam.

The two delegations expressed strong concern for conditions in Iraq and stressed the need to end the embargo imposed on the country, especially since the circumstances that led to the embargo are over. They also

stressed that the two countries should work at international forums to end this unjust embargo so that Iraq can assume its position within the international community and rebuild what the war destroyed.

The two delegations emphasized that security and stability in the Middle East will not come about unless just peace is established and the Palestinian Arab people's cause is settled on the basis of the resolutions of international legitimacy, represented in Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to set up their independent state on their national soil.

The members of the Sudanese delegation to the joint Sudanese-Yemeni committee arrived in Sanaa today led by brother Foreign Minister 'Ali Ahmad Sahlul.

### Meets With Salih 9 Sep

*JN0909061691 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, yesterday received Sudanese Foreign Minister brother 'Ali Ahmad Sahlul and the members of the Sudanese side to the joint Yemeni-Sudanese committee. Discussions at the meeting dealt with fraternal relations, fields of coordination and cooperation and ways of bolstering them, and ways to open new horizons for cooperation in the interest of the Yemeni and Sudanese peoples. The discussion also focused on issues and developments of interest to our Arab and Islamic nation, topped by the developments in the Horn of Africa.

The brother chairman was acquainted at the meeting with the results of the talks, the issues on the agenda of the current Sanaa session of the joint Yemeni-Sudanese committee, and the spheres of cooperation between the two countries.

The brother chairman hailed the continued progress in relations between the two sisterly states and emphasized our country's desire to foster its fraternal relations with sisterly Sudan in various fields, to expand the horizons of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries, and to coordinate on all issues of interest to our bilateral relations and to our Arab and Islamic nation.

## German Economic Cooperation Minister Visits

*LD0809163391 Berlin ADN in German 1227 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] Sanaa (ADN)—Germany and united Yemen want to continue to expand relations. The federal minister for economic cooperation, Carl-Dieter Spranger (Christian Social Union), and his Yemeni interlocutors, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Prime Minister Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, stated in Sanaa today that the fact that both Germany and Yemen established state unity in 1990 was particularly important. Spranger is in Yemen on a three-day visit.

While the president referred to the different pre-conditions for the process of unification of North and South Yemen in comparison with Germany, the prime minister stressed the instinctive closeness resulting from the parallel nature of their political processes. They could now start up their tried and tested relations on a fresh basis. The president said the merging of two different political systems posed the greatest difficulty for Yemeni unification. Naturally there were also economic problems, since the two countries had been very poor. Here he hoped for foreign—including German—aid.

Spranger said his visit consolidated the good basis for further cooperation between the two states. There was a whole series of joint interests, such as overcoming the problems connected with unification. The minister said he was satisfied with the high success rate of German development projects in Yemen. Bonn had so far given about one billion German marks in development aid.

The minister underlined Yemen's role in the peaceful solution of the still-smoldering Gulf conflict. He hoped that this position would become even more effective in harmony with Europe and the United States. President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih stressed his country's support for the United States peace efforts in the Middle East. He hoped that this policy would lead to security and peace for everyone in the region. In this way the Palestinians should also have the opportunity to establish their own state with their capital in Jerusalem. The human rights of all the peoples in the Middle East had to be respected.

## YNG Denies Plan To Form Government in Exile

*PM0909124291 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 3 Sep 91 p 5*

[Text] Jeddah, AL-HAYAH—The general secretariat of the Yemeni National Grouping [YNG] denied press reports of a YNG plan to form a government in exile resulting from a national congress to be held in an Arab capital and attended by hundreds of Yemeni opposition members at home and abroad.

A statement issued by the general secretariat says that these reports are "completly unfounded." The statement is signed by 'Abd-al-Qawi Makkawi, leader of the United National Front and YNG secretary general, and Shaykhan 'Abdallah al-Habashi, secretary general of the "Sons of the South League" and YNG secretary general [as published].

The statement reaffirms the YNG's determination to continue to discharge its duties as an alliance of opposition forces. It renews its insistence on its basic rights guaranteed under the constitution "which the YNG is anxious to uphold and adhere to."

## More Reportage on Battles in Northern Area

### Government Attacks 7 Sep

*NC0909181591 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1736 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Dear listeners, we have just received the following report:

At 1200 on 7 September, the regime's helicopters bombarded (Jalilah), [name indistinct], and other areas. On 8 September, [word indistinct] shelled the town center with artillery and mortars and [words indistinct] after the soldiers who had been deployed there joined the ranks of the masses.

The helicopters continued attacking the citizens until 2200 and resumed their attacks on the inhabitants in Taqtaq and the surrounding area at 0730 the next day. The Iraqi artillery, without any consideration for basic humanitarian standards or international laws, bombarded the helpless civilians for two hours. These unwarranted military operations resulted in serious human and material losses: Three citizens were martyred, 60 others were wounded, and over 50 houses were destroyed in Taqtaq and [words indistinct].

Preliminary reports indicate that (Kunsinjah) was also the scene of savage bombardment by the regime's forces, who martyred 11 citizens and peshmergas and destroyed a number of houses.

### Peshmergas Urged To Avoid Clashes

*NC0909173891 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1739 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] The secretary general of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [Jalal Talabani] yesterday issued an urgent appeal to all of Kurdistan's brave peshmerga factions following the military operations the regime's forces conducted in the Karkuk region, including the helicopters that strafed defenseless civilians and a peshmerga center in the village of [name indistinct].

Out of his belief that fighting should not be resumed in Kurdistan, the brother secretary general asked the peshmerga forces to implement the following immediately:

1. Avoid any clash or showdown with the regime's forces in all areas. Violators will be severely punished.
2. Avoid any confrontation with the ruling regime's forces.
3. The peshmerga forces must only act in self-defense if the government forces attack the liberated areas or the peshmerga centers in these areas.
4. The peshmerga forces should not give the regime's forces any excuse to conduct any offensive action against the liberated areas.
5. The peshmerga forces should not be drawn into any peripheral battles which might be launched by an isolated group that has not consulted the Kurdistan Front command or obtained its approval.

## UN 'Source' Reviews Fighting

*NC0909211891 Paris AFP in English 2052 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[By Mahir Chmaytilli]

[Excerpts] Baghdad, Sept 9 (AFP) - Several dozen people have been killed or wounded in fierce clashes between Iraqi forces and Kurdish guerrillas in northern Iraq, a United Nations source here said Monday.

The source, who declined to be identified, told AFP that an attempt by Kurds to return to the city of Karkuk ahead of the winter was apparently one of the causes of the renewed fighting in the area.

Heavy fighting had taken place in the mountains around Karkuk between Iraqi government troops and Kurdish guerrillas known as peshmergas, the source said.

Most of the Kurdish guerrillas involved in the fighting belonged to the Kurdistan Front, an eight-member coalition group, the source said.

The fighting has been concentrated around the town of Chamchamal, mid-way between Karkuk, which is in the hands of Iraqi government troops, and the town of al-Sulaymaniyah, which is controlled by Kurdish forces, the source said.

Several dozen dead and wounded have been transported to hospitals in Karkuk and al-Sulaymaniyah, the U.N. source said.

Both Kurdish and Iraqi forces have poured reinforcements into the area during the past two weeks, the source said.

Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, the U.N. executive delegate for humanitarian questions in the Gulf, said in Geneva earlier Monday that he was "extremely concerned" at reports of renewed fighting in northern Iraq.

Prince Sadruddin described the situation as "apparently tense" and said there was "a possibility of further confrontation in the area." [passage omitted]

According to the U.N. source here, tension began to mount in the region at the beginning of September when Kurds demanded to be allowed to return to their homes in Karkuk which they fled following the failed revolt.

The refugees held demonstrations outside U.N. offices in al- Sulaymaniyah demanding that the U.N. organize convoys to take them home.

Some of the refugees planned to take part in a march to Karkuk on Friday in defiance of roadblocks set up by Iraqi Army troops.

According to diplomatic sources here, the Iraqi Government has tried to prevent any change in the demographic makeup of the area ahead of a settlement.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has estimated that more than 150,000 people fled Karkuk.

### Spokesman Refutes Battle Reports

*JN1009105691 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Sep (INA)—A spokesman for the Culture and Information Ministry has expressed surprise at the statements made by UN Executive Representative Sadruddin Aga Khan—on what he termed the serious battles that were waged between Iraqi Government forces and armed Kurdish groups—before verifying facts.

In a statement to INA, the spokesman said that the Army and internal security forces are performing their normal duties in the northern area in the best possible way and under difficult circumstances to safeguard the citizens' security and protect their property. The spokesman added that it is the duty of these forces to respond to attacks against their headquarters or against the property of the government and citizens by terrorist elements who are motivated by foreign forces. This is what had happened a few days ago and ended Sunday night.

The spokesman said: Regrettably, UN Executive Representative Aga Khan, who works in Iraq in accordance with an agreement with the Iraqi Government, propagates and inflates such events relying on tendentious sources.

The spokesman added: It seems that these claims and this propaganda, which are linked with other motives, aim at creating fabricated pretexts to implement the unjust Resolution 706 against Iraq, contrary to its national will, and to continue to encroach on Iraq's sovereignty and its people's dignity.

The spokesman affirmed that the Iraqi Government is very concerned with extending security, stability, and tranquillity to northern Iraq. The Iraqi Government, the spokesman added, exercises the highest degree of patience and self-restraint in confronting the premeditated provocative attempts carried out every now and then by elements that are linked with hostile foreign schemes in order to undermine the dialogue [with the Kurdish parties] and the situation in Iraq.

The spokesman for the Culture and Information Ministry also affirmed that the Iraqi leadership is concerned to continue the dialogue with the Kurdistan Front to reach an agreement based on national unity, deepening the autonomy experiment, and resolving the problems from which the region suffered in the past, with a spirit of tolerance and national responsibility.

### Interior Minister Comments on Talks With Kurds

*JN0909150491 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1422 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Sep (INA)—Interior Minister 'Ali Hasan al- Majid stressed that the Iraqi leadership is eager to continue the dialogue with the parties of the Kurdistan Front in hopes of reaching an agreement that would bolster national unity, ensure stability and prosperity, and bring security to Kurdistan.

He was speaking during a meeting in Karkuk, capital of the al- Ta'mim Governorate. The meeting was attended by the governor and a number of state and party officials in the governorate. Mr. al- Majid praised the spirit of brotherhood and loyalty to the unity of the homeland, as embodied by the two sides during the past rounds of talks. He paid tribute to the concern shown by the Kurdistan Front delegation, led by Mas'ud Barzani, over Iraq's future and upsurge, away from the imperialist and Zionist intervention, and the practices of the small agents.

The interior minister accused Iraq's enemies and their suspect alliance of working to sabotage the dialogue and preventing it from reaching positive results in the interests of Iraq. He stressed that by such attempts, these forces aim to weaken Iraq and marginalize its national, pan-Arab, and humanitarian role.

The minister touched upon the historic roots of the al-Ta'mim Governorate and the city of Karkuk. He said since ancient times, Karkuk has been a symbol of pan-Arab brotherhood among Arabs, Turkoman, and Kurds. Like the other Iraqi cities, Karkuk is for all nationalities, exclusive to no one group, he said.

Mr. al-Majid disclosed that the competent authorities in the governorate have completed preparations for receiving 529 Kurdish families that were forced to leave because of the riots caused by infiltrators and agents. He said that several popular and official committees have been established to secure services and foodstuffs, and to organize housing projects.

### Arab Council Criticized for Rejecting Proposal

*JN0909161591 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Sep (INA)—Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih criticized the Arab Economic and Social Council's rejection of Iraq's proposal concerning a lifting of the economic blockade against the Iraqi people during its recent Cairo meeting.

In a news conference held here today, the minister said the council's position was the result of agreed-upon theatrical methods practiced by the representatives of the Arabian Gulf regimes in pursuance and implementation of U.S. policy.

He strongly deplored the fact that these regimes have been turned into obedient tools to implement the continuing and flagrant U.S. aggressive policy against the Iraqi people, who are subjected to the ugliest crime—the banning of medicine and food.

The minister explained that the Iraqi delegation to the conference foiled attempts by the Gulf states' regimes to transfer the seats of the Arab Industrial Development Organization and other Arab organizations from Baghdad to other Arab countries.

The minister said that the Iraqi delegation stressed to the conferees that the Iraqi people did not, and will not,

hesitate to back the Arabs in their struggle against Zionism and imperialism, and that Iraq's pan-Arab positions were, and will continue to be, known and clear to all peoples and movements of liberation in the region.

Recalling Kuwait's withdrawal from the Arab Economic Unity Council, the minister said that the Gulf regimes have for long years been working to tear apart common Arab action. He also noted that these regimes have worked to diminish Arab organizations and unions under the pretext of financial and economic constraints, and that they failed to pay their financial contributions to those organizations.

### Warnings of 'Catastrophe' From Embargo Stepped Up

*NC1009062391 Paris AFP in English 0605 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[By Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Text] Manama, Sep 10 (AFP)—Iraq is stepping up its warnings that the country is on the verge of catastrophe unless the United Nations lifts a 13-month trade embargo.

As the U.N. Security Council prepares to discuss the issue, the government and the official media have issued daily appeals for the United Nations to call off the sanctions and prevent further human suffering in Iraq.

Iraq says that the sanctions imposed four days after it invaded Kuwait in August 1990 had exhausted its food and medical supplies, triggering epidemics and sowing malnutrition.

About 16,000 cancer patients are said to lack efficient treatment or not receive any at all.

According to the Iraqi Health Ministry, more than 14,000 children under the age of five have died since the sanctions were enforced because of shortages of medicine.

Hospital officials feel helpless as they speak of their daily struggle to care for their patients in the absence of proper medical supplies.

Ophthalmologists, to name but one example cited by the official IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, said only 690 patients received urgent operations in the first three months of 1991, while 6,012 had surgery over the same period in 1990.

As a result the number of blind people has increased tenfold in the past six months in Iraq, the agency said.

Other official sources reported 1,118 miscarriages in Salah al-Din Province of west Iraq since the embargo, 1,640 cases of cholera nationwide, and that 4,913 people had died of chronic ailments in June, compared to 1,379 in August 1990.

The Defense Ministry's newspaper AL-QADISIYAH voiced hope Sunday that the Security Council would heed a recommendation by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to allow Iraq to sell more oil to buy basic necessities.

### Papers View U.S. Regional Policy 'Failure'

*JN0809105691 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0646 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 8 Sep (INA)—Two Iraqi papers have affirmed that the United States wants to establish a new world order in accordance with its own criteria, will, and interests as well as those of its allies, particularly Israel.

AL-THAWRAH, the organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says in an article today that the clearest, most recent expression of the nature of the new American order, its illegitimate and inhuman essence, and blatant double standard, is represented by the strong blow dealt by Israel to the U.S. President and his new order when it presented a request to obtain $10 billion in credit facilities from the United States to settle the Soviet immigrants in the occupied Arab territory.

AL-THAWRAH adds that Israel strongly rejected Bush's hope that Israel would not make this request so as to proceed with the peace plan. Also, it is known that the previous Israeli request was for $400 million only, not $10 billion.

The Iraqi paper notes that this is not the only thing that spoiled Israel did to Washington. It announced with its known impudence that it refuses to make any linkage between obtaining loans or facilities and making progress in the peace process.

AL-THAWRAH affirms that the U.S. President, despite Israel's challenge, remained concerned about provoking Israel. He continued to deal with Israel with all flexibility, leniency, and kindness despite its blatant violation of the UN laws and the resolutions of international legitimacy regarding its expansionist settlement-building plans in the occupied Arab territory.

The paper ridicules Bush's new order, which shows flexibility in dealing Israel, which has been violating the international legitimacy resolutions for more than 40 years. Meanwhile, this order, very quickly, adopts various unjust resolutions against Iraq and deprives its people of medicine and food. As a result, scores of thousands of children, sick and old people have died. [passage omitted]

AL-JUMHURIYAH notes the end of one stage and the beginning of another with the interaction and harmony between Zionism and the U.S. Administration. In today's editorial, AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the new stage begins with new tools and new working methods to invest world changes in order to obtain big gains for Zionism, subjugate the U.S. Administration to more pressure and blackmail, and to expedite the implementation of the Zionist immigration programs, which Israel considers the basis for realizing its dreams.

The paper notes that when the American president addresses an open call on Israel to wait four months before presenting its request for loan guarantees, he does so to obscure the peace process pushed by Bush and

blessed by pro-American Arabs despite its exposure of an American-Zionist conspiracy against the Palestinians and the Arab nation. [passage omitted]

AL-JUMHURIYAH asks whether Israel has finished employing Bush as the perpetrator of the crime of the age against Iraq and the executor of the worst policies of oppression against the Arabs, denying their rights, particularly the Palestinian people's right to their land.

The paper says that President George Bush's failure emerges in his blatant failure to destroy the will of the Iraqi people, their heroic adherence to their leadership, to their unity, and to their free, independent national structure. Bush's failure was also reiterated in his policies, slogans, and acts which have aroused indignation and resentment against the United States among the sons of the Arab nation and the good people of the world.

Concluding, AL-JUMHURIYAH affirms that the American president's last and most bitter failure came at the hands of his allies and his Zionist makers inside the United States itself and in occupied Palestine.

### Cultural Cooperation Agreement Signed With Yemen

*JN0709132091 Baghdad INA in English 1220 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] Baghdad, Sep. 7, INA—Iraq and Yemen have signed today a program for cultural, scientific, and educational cooperation for the coming three years.

The program was signed for Iraq by the minister of higher education and scientific research 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Hashimi and for the Yemeni side by its ambassador to Iraq Mr 'Abdallah al-Shami.

The program has stipulated encouragement of bilateral cooperation between universities and educational institutions and establishments in the two countries, the exchange of visits between members of teaching staffs and coordination in the exchange of educational and teaching expertise between the two countries.

And in the field of culture, information, sport and youth the two sides have agreed on exchanging broadcasting and television programs and exchange of visits between officials in the broadcasting and television of the two countries.

### Ankara Embassy Asks Turkey To Help Lift Embargo

*TA0709172291 Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish 1555 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] Ankara (AA)—The Iraqi National Committee for Lifting the Embargo indicated that the embargo against Iraq has been in effect for a year and asked the Turkish people to help lift it.

A communique from the committee, addressed to the Turkish press through the Iraqi Embassy in Ankara, says: "Our humane Turkish brothers, how can your conscience accept the fact that the Iraqi people are living in hunger?"

The communique states that Iraqi children have no milk and the sick no medicine. It adds that forcing millions of Iraqis to live in hunger and poverty until they die and maintaining the inhuman embargo are contrary to the basic principles and values of Islam and Christianity.

The communique asks the Turkish people to raise their voices in protest against the embargo.

### SAIRI Spokesman Rejects New Multiparty law

*NC0709155891 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Opposition in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] The Iraqi opposition rejected the law issued by the tyrant's regime providing for a multiparty system, terming it a means for imposing the ruling party's hegemony on Iraqi political life.

Muhammad Muhammad 'Ali, spokesman for the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI], said that Saddam Husayn, who personally holds the reins of central authority, has given himself the right to issue this law. He noted that, according to his own law, Saddam's regime must be the first to be punished for spawning factionalism and racism, jeopardizing the country's unity and independence, and shaking the region's foundations of security and peace.

The spokesman added that the ruling party has given itself the right to apply party politics within the Army and the security forces, while this decision should have been made by the legislature and the constitutional government. He said that Saddam's tendency to set preconditions and give his own party preference and hegemony conflict with the simplest of political freedoms. The spokesman noted that, due to the practices of the past two decades, certain elements within the Army and the internal security forces have become pliable tools for Saddam and his regime to use to oppress the Iraqi people. He added that, as the Army has come under the control of a group of opportunists and profiteers, it now must take the appropriate measures to return to its original assignment—defending the interests of the Iraqi people.

The spokesman stressed that Saddam issued this new law to legitimize his practices in the eyes of all the honest elements in our valiant Army. The spokesman noted that a law for party multiplicity, or any law for that matter, must be passed by a parliament elected by the people and not by Saddam or the so-called Revolution Command Council.

### Satisfaction Voiced With Baker's 'Clarifications'

*TA0909183891 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Political circles in Israel have expressed satisfaction with Secretary of State Baker's continued efforts to dissipate the tension between Israel and the United States with clarifications that there is no U.S. attempt to link the settlement policy and the loan guarantees for the absorption of aliyah. Our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik notes that Baker will arrive in Israel next week. It is believed that the attempt to put off the guarantees stems primarily from his desire to send a signal to the Arabs so as to obtain the agreements necessary for the convocation of the peace conference.

### Sharon Says Shamir Approves All Settlements

*TA0609193691 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1805 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that all acts of settlement in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip are made with the full knowledge of the prime minister, his approval, support, and full encouragement. Sharon told our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik that the settlement policy is the policy of the whole Israeli Government.

Deputy Minister Ge'ula Kohen this evening said that Israel's Government must understand that all the Americans want is our withdrawal from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. She called on the government to collect the funds needed for immigrant absorption through an emergency fund-raising campaign of the whole of the Jewish nation.

Also this evening, a short while ago, four firebombs were thrown at the home of Minister Ari'el Sharon in the Old City of Jerusalem. Our correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov reports that two of firebombs caught fire on the balcony, and the other two ignited in the backyard. No one was hurt and no serious damage was caused. Police and Border Police units launched a search throughout the Old City for the perpetrators.

### Tehiya's Kohen Criticizes Shamir, Urges Elections

*TA0909135191 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Deputy Minister Ge'ula Kohen of the Tehiya movement says that the Rosh Hashanah interview that the prime minister granted Qol Yisra'el clearly indicates he is willing to swallow the financial aid bone the U.S. Administration is throwing us as compensation for postponing the guarantees, and is even willing to go to the peace conference although the United States is turning from a mediator into a supporter of the Arabs' demands. According to Ge'ula Kohen, the interview indicates that Shamir is also prepared to discuss the territories issue with the Arabs, contrary to the government's declarations. She also accuses the prime minister of shirking responsibility for continued settlement and preferring that the settlements be identified with Minister Sharon.

Ge'ula Kohen told our correspondent Yo'el Nir that to prevent continued deterioration the government should be dissolved and elections called.

### Ne'eman—Absorption Possible Without Guarantees

*TA0609073791 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0600 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] Minister Yuval Ne'eman believes that Israel will be able to absorb immigrants even without the U.S. loan guarantees. Ne'eman told our political correspondent that, in his opinion, President Bush and Secretary Baker have not learned their lesson. Just as a year and a half ago they caused the downfall of the unity government over the representation of East Jerusalem Arabs, they will cause the fall of the current government if they demand that settlement be stopped, Minister Ne'eman said.

### Minister on Inability To Cope With Immigration

*TA0609075191 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] Immigrant Absorption Minister Yitzhaq Peretz cannot imagine that the United States will not underwrite the loans that Israel is requesting for immigrant absorption. Minister Peretz said that Israel will not be able to cope with the massive wave of immigration on its own, and he believes the obstacles raised by the United States are part of the political game. Minister Peretz was speaking at a reception for immigrants who arrived last night from the Soviet Union.

### Bush's Handling of Guarantees Affair Criticized

*TA0809125191 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 8 Sep 91 p 3*

[Commentary by Hemi Shalev: "Bush in a China Shop"]

[Text] The U.S. Administration is furious about settlement in the territories, and small wonder. Neither is it a surprise that President Bush wants to use the loan guarantees as a lever to exact concessions from Israel. Nevertheless, the administration's handling of the relationship between the two might yet prove a fatal mistake.

The blunt and open war the administration has declared on settlement should have been kept for the day after the opening of the peace conference. Perhaps at that time Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir could have been forced to make gestures on the question of settlement, in exchange for reciprocal gestures concerning the Arab boycott.

The peace process has not yet started, however, and the administration is already providing Shamir and his men excellent excuses not to start it. The cause chosen for the

fight suits Israel to a T: Soviet immigration has in the last few years become a second religion for U.S. Jews, in addition to their support for Israel.

Shamir enters the war with the administration with U.S. Jews rallied around him, with supportive Congressmen fearing an upcoming election year, and with even those Israelis who object to settlement voicing their misgivings about pressure on such a "humanitarian" issue.

Pronouncements by officials close to Bush show that following the disintegration of the Soviet Union the President feels as if he has been appointed emperor of the world. Even an emperor, however, cannot behave like a bull in a china shop and turn his back on discrete diplomacy, which can attain far better results.

Shamir might yet spoil Bush's coronation ceremony, even at the expense of seriously harming Israel's interests.

## Defense Official on Threats, Peace Process

*TA0709123991 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0905 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Interview with David 'Ivri, Defense Ministry director general, by army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe; place and date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Menashe] Major General (Res.) David 'Ivri, in your view, today, after the Gulf war and Iraq's defeat, is there still a real threat to the State of Israel?

['Ivri] In my view, there is a real threat to the State of Israel as long as there is no peace. The potential threat—whether it is now reduced or greater—is the issue, and I believe that we can certainly say that since the larger part of the Iraqi military machine was hit there has been a quantitative diminution in the threat. As to whether there is also a qualitative diminution, I believe we will have to wait and see what the future brings. To my regret, we are already witnessing continued arms procurement by the countries surrounding us; these countries are choosing arms based on the lessons learned from the Gulf war. That intensification must certainly be of concern to us, since it makes up part of the threat we can expect to face in the future.

[Menashe] The United States, like Israel, was surprised by the quantity of chemical weapons and missile launchers and the nuclear potential in Iraq. Was there not an intelligence failure?

['Ivri] I believe failure is a very harsh word. There were all sort of evaluations. The fact is that in 1981 we did attack the nuclear reactor, despite the systems then existing. Since then the Iraqis have made intense efforts to become stronger through nonconventional arms in various ways. The West and Israel knew about some of those efforts, but not all. The Iraqis assumed that if we knew of some efforts, then we would tend not to search for additional ones. I believe that our stress was first and foremost on the fact that they had nonconventional weapons and were making an effort to achieve a nuclear potential. There was no clear idea of what stage the Iraqis had reached.

[Menashe] Will a reconnaissance satellite help here?

['Ivri] There is no doubt about it. It is wrong to think, however, that a reconnaissance satellite solves all the problems. I believe that a satellite can be a very important element, providing pictures to verify our evaluations. It is a fact that during the Gulf war we made use of U.S. satellites, which provided us with information that otherwise we could not have received.

[Menashe] Will we be able to begin developing a satellite here in Israel?

['Ivri] I cannot respond to that. [passage omitted]

[Menashe] Do you believe the Iraqis will, in the final analysis, achieve a nuclear capability?

['Ivri] It is difficult for me to say what will happen in time. I believe they will continue to make the effort. That is the main problem. If I were convinced that after the Gulf war they had stopped their efforts to procure and develop nonconventional weapons, I would have relaxed. The very fact that investigations reveal things they tried to hide, however, means they tried to continue the development. That worries us. What will their capability be? That depends on the continued supervision, the sanctions, and how effective both are. I believe the Iraqis under the present Saddam Husayn regime will make every effort to achieve nuclear capability, because that gives him the leadership advantage and an international bargaining chip in the Arab world.

[Menashe] Do you believe we can reach a political process if Iraq does not break the cycle of active hostility?

['Ivri] The first step taken by Egypt was extremely important. Each country that joins tips the balance toward peace and away from those who remain in a state of conflict with us. I do not think, therefore, that Iraq is the deciding factor today. I think the key is Syria and Jordan. If either of them comes closer to peace with us, it would be very significant. I believe that the peace must be one that brings about a regional interest in Israel's existence. A signed peace accord is not enough, because if we are not sufficiently strong and there is no regional interest in our existence, then there is a big risk that a war will break out.

[Menashe] Is it true, as has been published, that the Arrow antiballistic missile is in trouble?

['Ivri] There are several small technological problems that I believe can be solved. In general, developing modern weapons systems is a problem, and I certainly believe the Arrow is one of the modern systems. The Americans support the Arrow because they believe it contains a certain breakthrough. When you are involved

in technological breakthroughs, from time to time you get stuck in the process. At the moment there are several snags, which I believe are to be expected. According to the experts, they can be solved and progress can be made. It is merely a question of time.

[Menashe] It is a project involving millions of dollars. Does the multiyear work plan include procurement?

['Ivri] Yes, certainly the multiyear plan is one of the main components. I believe the chief of staff and the minister want to increase procurement and development over a longer period, at the expense of ongoing projects. There are, therefore, cuts in some of the Army's ongoing projects. I believe it is a rather courageous and correct move in the present circumstances. We have to build the future. We have the opportunity to do that now, and I hope the entire setup will be able to withstand other pressures so that we can implement the plan. [passage omitted]

### Claims of River Diversion Caused by Work on Pump

*TA0709175091 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] For the past two days, all Lebanese newspapers have given prominent coverage to claims that Israel is attempting to divert the al-Litani River in southern Lebanon.

According to the papers, the Meqorot Water Company has laid underground pipes to channel water from the security zone to Metula.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht points out that the entire media fuss has been caused by work done by Meqorot last week to replace a burned-out water pump on the outskirts of Marj 'Uyun.

### Security Sources Deny Drone Downed in Lebanon

*TA0809110991 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Sep 91 p A2*

[Report by Shefi Gabay]

[Text] A drone exploded and burned out in east Lebanese skies yesterday. This was reported by a security source in Beirut.

The explosion occurred above bases of the Syrian Army, Iranian Revolutionary Guards, and Hizballah. Burning fragments of the drone fell into an apple orchard, causing a fire that was put out by the Syrian Army's fire brigades stationed in the area. "The drone must have been Israeli," said the Beirut security source. The report has been denied by Israeli security sources.

### Lahd Frees Two in Swap With Radical Sunnis

*TA3008130991 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 Aug 91 p A3*

[Excerpts] Antoine Lahd, South Lebanese Army [SLA] commander, managed to work out a POW exchange deal with a radical Sunni group in Lebanon. Following prolonged negotiations, this group returned to the SLA this week an officer it had captured a few years ago. In return, Lahd released two Sunni community members, residents of the village of Shab'a in the security zone, who were suspected of hostile activity and collaboration with a terrorist organization.

The SLA says that senior Hizballah members have also appealed to Lahd lately, requesting the release of captives held in the al-Khiyam jail in return for SLA people this organization had captured. Lahd agreed to the request with a few conditions, but no results have been obtained yet.

There are about 300 prisoners, including more than 20 women, in al-Khiyam. The SLA is continuing its detentions and has jailed a few more captives this past week.

The SLA Command has announced it does not intend to carry out a larger POW exchange with the various organizations if the Israeli POW's and MIA's are not included. [passage omitted]

Hizballah, with Iran's aid, has set up in the Shiite village of Jarju' outside the security zone a large clinic, which they use as a base for terrorist activity in the region. The villagers are trying to fight them. SLA commanders said they will continue to impose a night curfew on several Shiite villages, including Jarju', which serve as centers for terrorist activity.

### Poll Shows More Readiness for Golan Concessions

*TA0809115391 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 8 Sep 91 p 1*

[Text] As the possibility of negotiations with Syria becomes more tangible, more Israelis are expressing willingness to make concessions on the Golan Heights in exchange for a peace treaty with Syria, although the majority is still unwilling to do so. That fact is shown by a public opinion poll conducted by the Smith Institute exclusively for DAVAR.

Some 1,000 people, who constitute a representative sample of the adult Jewish population, were polled during the last week of August. One question was: "Would you be willing to make territorial concessions on the Golan Heights in order to attain peace with Syria?" The numbers indicate percentages.

| | Jun 1991 | Aug 1991 |
|---|---|---|
| Prepared to give back the entire Golan Heights on condition of true peace and guarantees provided to Israel | 7 | 8 |
| Prepared to give back part of the Golan Heights on condition of true peace and guarantees provided to Israel | 28 | 34 |
| At present, not prepared to give back territory in the Golan Heights in exchange for peace | 57 | 54 |
| Other/no opinion | 8 | 4 |

The second question was: "As part of the regional peace conference would you be willing to make territorial concessions, with U.S. guarantees provided, in exchange for peace with the Arab countries?"

| | Aug 1991 |
|---|---|
| Definitely willing | 19 |
| Willing, but side by side with Arab concessions | 30 |
| Not very willing to make territorial concessions | 20 |
| Unwilling to make territorial concessions | 28 |
| Other/no opinion | 3 |

Hence, Israeli public opinion on the issue is split. About half of Israelis are completely unwilling or not very willing to give back territory, with U.S. guarantees provided. The other half is willing to make concessions, but over half of them on condition that the Arabs make parallel concessions.

## IDF Changing Deployment in Territories

*TA0509175391 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 5 Sep 91 pp 1, 2*

[Report by Avi Bnayahu]

[Text] Recently the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] almost halved the number of outposts Shim'on Peres set up along West Bank traffic arteries and at the entrances to towns and villages. Senior military sources told 'AL HAMISHMAR that the IDF currently maintains outposts mainly along the arteries and the entrances to villages, while some units are now mobile and move from place to place according to field requirements. That move was adopted as part of the trend to curtail the scope of the forces in the territories and to make ongoing security more efficient. When Arens took over the Defense Ministry the number of outposts increased, but it was recently decided to reduce them.

A military source said yesterday that "the problem of stone throwing is declining, especially along traffic arteries. In order to solve the problem more work is being done on paving roads to bypass the main crossroads, including in the Tulkarm area, Dolev near Ramallah, 'Anabta and 'Azzun, to assure Israelis safe travel."

As part of the tendency to cut forces in the territories and to make them more efficient, there is a possibility that the Army might consider cutting down during the coming year the number of commands in the territories without affecting its targets in those areas. A significant increase in special units, especially undercover units, is expected during the coming year, aimed at changing the methods of operation in dealing with the hardcore intifadah.

During the past year, field intelligence in the territories was extended and an overlapping system of lookouts was outfitted with new measures permitting surveillance of wanted men. The field intelligence network in the territories is supposed to be doubled in 1992. "This activity contributes to the intelligence effort, which is foiling attacks and is showing excellent results."

The military sources said that in general there has been a reduction in the scope of the forces in the West Bank over the past year and that an additional drop is planned for the coming year as part of the plan by the general command to cut back ongoing security in all sectors. The residents of the territories are slowly returning to normal routine and do not automatically respond to calls by the intifadah leadership in leaflets and the media. On the other hand, the struggle against the hardcore and those who initiate hostile activities is sharpening. It is forecast that there will be a radicalization in terrorist activities against soldiers and settlers in order to return the problem of the territories to the headlines prior to a possible political process.

The senior military sources warned that Fatah recently set up a network in Jordan similar in scope to the one there in the late 1960's. They said that there has lately been an increase in the hurling of firebombs, explosives, and grenades. On the other hand, there has been a decline in attacks on residents of the territories suspected of collaborating with Israel. "We are at the onset of a difficult period, with the overall tendency being an increase in hostile activities and attacks with live ammunition contrary to the wane in street violence."

## Demolitions, Sealing of Houses Down

*TA0509184591 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Sep 91 p A19*

[Report by 'Imanu'el Rosen]

[Excerpt] There has recently been a sharp drop in the number of demolitions and sealing up of houses in the territories, senior military sources said.

They said that it was decided to try to curtail as much as possible the imposition of such punishment due to the high sensitivity and the sharp reactions the measures arouse around the world and in view of the desire to improve the atmosphere in the territories with the political process due to start soon .

Legalities which permit homeowners to appeal a decision to demolish or seal their properties make the punishment less effective, the sources said.

In the past, the defense establishment claims, demolishing or sealing up houses was effective punishment. They believe that even now it serves as a deterrent, but as with the deportees, "it was decided to lower the profile and try to focus on a different type of punishment." [passage omitted]

### Incidents in Some Arab Areas Down by 50 Percent

*TA0609115091 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] The number of nationalistic incidents in Arab locations in the Galilee and the Golan Heights dropped by almost 50 percent in the first seven months of 1991, compared with the same period last year. Deputy Commander Rami Rahav of the Galilee District Police told our correspondent Yo'el Dar that the drop may be attributed, among other things, to the successful operations of the security forces and to the outcome of the Gulf war.

### Sharp Criticism of State Budget Reported

*TA0409200191 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 4 Sep 91*

[Excerpts] The Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs decided to cut the budget deficit gradually and to eliminate it all together within four years. Economic sources pointed out that the move is aimed at convincing the U.S. Administration to provide guarantees for the $10 billion in loans Israel wants to raise abroad.

The government decision on the state budget aroused angry reactions among ministers and leaders of economic organizations, as well as in the Knesset. Our economic affairs correspondent 'Oded Shahar reports:

The government's credibility is disappearing; it makes decisions and quickly cancels them, Moshe Nisim, deputy prime minister and industry and trade minister, said about the budget. Those remarks were only a prelude to a long series of sharp criticisms of the government's decision. Minister David Magen said that some of the decisions will harm the settlements along the borders, the poor, and new immigrants. Immigrant Absorption Minister Yitzhaq Peretz rejected the decision to change immigration forecasts and said Israel must prepare for 250,000 immigrants and perhaps more. Minister Moshe Qatzav said we must not cut subsidies for public transportation, for doing so will harm the weak. Dani Gillerman, president of the Chambers of Commerce, said that Israel is returning to the era of a Bolshevik economy. Dov Lautman, president of the Manufacturers Association, was shocked to discover that the government canceled what is termed accelerated depreciation, which is, in fact, very generous aid to industry. [passage omitted]

The budget deficit is very large. In a single night the government increased the deficit by 1 billion shekels. A senior Treasury official spoke about the need to maintain a deficit level of 5.5 percent of GNP, but government expenditures were increased last night and the deficit grew to over 6 percent. Yitzhaq Moda'i was forced to give in to his government colleagues, to yield completely on a defense cut, and even to increase the defense budget by another 500 million shekels. [passage omitted]

### Chief of Staff—IDF Accepts Budget 'As Is'

*TA0409163991 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 4 Aug 91*

[Text] Lieutenant General Ehud Baraq, chief of the General Staff, has said that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] follows the instructions of the Israeli Government and will accept the government's budget decision as is. Naturally, there are things that will be affected by it, the chief of staff said, but it is our duty to do all that we can to ensure maximum security for the state with what the government has approved for the IDF. The IDF will examine the implications of the government's decision. We did not fight with the Finance Ministry, and I do not believe that this is a question of anybody's victory, he said. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the chief of staff made these remarks while visiting wounded soldiers at Levinstein Hospital on the eve of Rosh Hashana.

### Citizen Charged With Passing Secret Information

*TA0509192691 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Sep 91*

[Text] Shim'on Hanegbi, a resident of Rishon Leziyyon, was recently charged at the Tel Aviv District Court with passing information to the enemy and illegally crossing the border into Jordan. An ITIM correspondent reports that the prosecution claims that on the night of 11 April 1990, Hanegbi crossed the border in the Arava area. He entered Jordan and was captured by the Jordanian security forces. He served in the Air Force as a helicopter mechanic. Under questioning, he gave his interrogators secret information.

## U.S. Decision 'Positive,' But 'Insufficient'

*JN0709065391 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Sep 91 pp 1, 14*

[Editorial: "A Positive but Insufficient U.S. Step"]

[Text] As the October date of the proposed peace conference approaches, the entire peace process seems at a decisive turning point: It may move as planned, or it may collapse, be postponed indefinitely, or perhaps this last chance may be missed completely.

There are signs of a U.S.-Israeli confrontation—how serious we do not know—over U.S. $10 billion loan guarantees for Israel to help it accommodate Soviet Jews in the occupied Arab territories.

Yesterday, U.S. President Bush called on the Congress to defer discussion of these guarantees for four months in order to give peace a chance. Announcing the decision, Bush said that "giving the loan guarantees for Israel to help it accommodate Soviet Jewish immigrants may threaten the peace process in the Middle East." He added: "We will not risk undermining the peace process, and I know that the postponement is in the best interest of the world."

We should note the positivity of the U.S. President's decision, although we believe it is insufficient. The United States should stop its assistance to Israel completely as long as the latter fails to observe international resolutions and rejects the principle of a land-for-peace exchange.

The settlement activity is illegitimate in principle: It is a perpetuation of Zionist aggression on Arab territory, ample proof that Israel is Judaizing the occupied Arab territories, and a rejection of withdrawal from these territories in accordance with Security Council resolutions.

We have repeatedly stressed the need for the U.S. Administration to apply serious pressure on its Israeli ally as the only means to facilitate peace efforts and open the doors and windows for their success. The Zionist mentality and strategy do not believe in peace voluntarily. Israel, therefore, should come under pressure, especially from the United States, which provides Israel with all the assistance it needs, from the loaf of bread to the missile.

We will not be pinning great hopes on this possible confrontation before we see the implications of the U.S. position on the Israeli policy, especially since we are well aware of the full U.S. bias toward Israel. However, we would like to see the positive stance announced by President Bush yesterday develop, and we hope he will not back down on his decision under the pressure of the Zionist lobby in the Congress and the blackmail of the enemy government, which we expect to react strongly to President Bush's step.

We should also note the positive European position as announced by the Belgium foreign minister during his visit to Tel Aviv yesterday. He stresses the EC's call on Israel to give up the occupied Arab territories and recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

If the United States and Europe join forces and press Israel into accepting international legitimacy, then, we believe, there will be a good chance for the success of the peace process and for bringing about stability in this vital part of the world. Because of their interests in the region, the United States and Europe need this stability more than the other world nations.

## U.S. Faces 'Clear Test' Over Loan Guarantees

*JN0709091191 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Sep 91 pp 1, 20*

[Editorial: "The Exposed Israeli Extortion"]

[Text] It is Israel's strange political logic that prompts Foreign Minister David Levi to accuse the United States of blackmailing and pressuring Israel over the $10 billion in loan guarantees requested by Shamir's government to absorb and accommodate Jewish immigrants in occupied Palestine.

Of course, it is nothing strange for Israel to sharpen its tone against the United States and to fabricate a dispute with Washington whenever U.S. policy comes closer to Israel's red lines concerning Middle East peace. This has been part of Israel's strategy over the years of the Arab-Israeli conflict, practiced whenever the United States moved to bring about a peaceful settlement of this conflict.

What is strange this time, however, is that Israel is accusing Washington of blackmail and of applying "unjustified" pressure to push forward the peace process. The accusation, indeed, comes while the U.S.-Israeli strategic relations are subject to a series of Zionist acts of extortion against the United States, and pressures on Washington, the White House, and the Congress to provide Israel with financial and military aid, and with unlimited political support.

Israel wants the $10 billion to settle hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories. This gives the U.S. Administration—the guardian of the peace process—the strongest indication that Israel's intensive and growing settlement activity is the biggest obstacle to peace and a stumbling block to negotiations within the proposed peace conference, which Israel views as a form of communication and contact with the Arab countries, without this compelling Israel to give anything for the sake of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

The authority in Tel Aviv believes that any U.S. conduct that pushes the peace process in the right direction is a form of pressure and extortion. Israel, in fact, exploits

every U.S. move to blackmail Washington into giving it everything it needs, without Israel giving any indication that it is serious about a true peace in the region.

As a matter of fact, Israel is pressuring and blackmailing the United States, and the U.S. citizen is paying for this from his taxes, budget, and resources. Israel plays this game every now and then, as dictated by its aggressive military and settlement needs.

Shamir's government intentionally made the guarantees request before U.S. Secretary of State James Baker began his seventh tour of the region. This time, Israel is not receiving the U.S. secretary with only a new settlement in the occupied territories, but with a full settlement program that would undermine the essence of the current U.S.-patronized peace process.

The U.S. Administration is today put to a clear test: It either surrenders to Israel's blackmail and supplies Israel with the huge loans to fund its expansionist settlement programs, or it applies real pressure on Israel by halting these loans until Israel complies with a just peace based on the principles of fairness, Security Council resolutions, and international legitimacy.

Can Washington do this and resist Zionist pressure? Can it impose international legitimacy on Israel as it imposed it on Iraq during the Gulf war?

### Egyptian Reaction to White Paper Denounced

*JN0909114191 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 9 Sep 91 pp 1, 28*

[Editorial: "Slander Does Not Obliterate Facts"]

[Text] The White Paper was merely an idea harbored by the Jordanian Government when President Husni Mubarak first unleashed his threats against Jordan and when he threatened to publish a black paper on our patriotic and pan-Arab position toward the Gulf crisis. President Mubarak's position at the time did not surprise us, but we never imagined that anger would lead him to lose his balance and that his writers would follow suit. This has made observers believe that President Mubarak has every right to fear the Jordanian Government's publication of the White Paper and even to lose his balance because the paper is an honest record of the facts and documents that are well known by the Jordanian and Egyptian officials, and also by all Arab officials.

Suffice to mention here that many Arab leaders knew about His Majesty King Husayn's letter to President Saddam Husayn, which was published for the first time in the White Paper, at the time it was sent. The Egyptian media ridiculously attempted to cast doubts on the letter because it refuted the idea of the Iraqi-Jordanian conspiracy, which Cairo has played on, and also asserted Iraq's readiness to withdraw from Kuwait to pave the way for the Arab solution—a solution in which the Egyptian regime, more than any other Arab regime, was not interested. This is because this regime was eager to push the Gulf crisis toward escalation, complication, and internationalization in a way that would harm Baghdad, Riyadh, Damascus, Kuwait, and the close and distant Arabs in the hope—which bordered an illusion—that the U.S. reward to the Egyptian regime would be bigger than many expect. We then saw the results. The emirate of Kuwait was the first to direct a resounding slap to that regime, and portrayed it as having hired itself in exchange for a few dollars, which it had not yet cashed in full. Also, Washington has not succeeded in qualifying that regime to return to the millions of Arabs following the Baghdad summit decision to isolate it.

The Egyptian regime, which finds itself repudiated even by the Gulf Arabs after they discovered its size and the price it wants, and which is still repudiated by the other Arabs, believes that slander can obliterate facts. The loss of balance that hit the regime's head and his writers is driving them to continue their cheap slander in a desperate attempt to forge facts that are difficult to forge after everybody in the Arab homeland and the world have come to know about them.

The Gulf crisis has harmed all Arabs and their countries, and the Egyptian regime and the Emirate of Kuwait are the only ones to view all that has been inflicted on the homeland and the nation as gains for them. This puts them in the same Zionist and Western trench that is hostile to our existence and future. We do not believe that the Egyptian and Kuwaiti people are happy with what the two regimes, which are out of tune with the current Arab distress, have brought them. Neither history nor the Arab masses will show them any mercy.

### Palestinians Urged Not To Procrastinate

*JN0909073791 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 9 Sep 91 p 5*

["Weekly Political Pulse" by Walid al-Sa'di: "Clearing the Last Hurdles Towards Peace"]

[Text] The immediate parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict are holding their breath in anticipation of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's seventh visit to the region to untie the knot that has so far prevented the completion of the preparations for the October Middle East peace conference. The remaining nut that awaits cracking is of course the matter of Palestinian participation in the projected peace talks. Till this point in time and in spite of all tireless efforts, the Palestinians remain the only major player in the peace process that have not formally accepted to attend the proposed peace parley.

The Palestinians offer two persuasive reasons for holding back on their final word: one because their sole representative, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), is being denied a place at the negotiating table and two because Israel insists it will not accept to negotiate with Palestinians from East Jerusalem and deems them persona non grata for the purposes of the peace talks.

The Israeli insistence to exclude the PLO from the negotiation process appears to substantiate Palestinian fears that such a stance amounts to the negation of Palestinian identity and their right of self-determination. The Israeli veto on East Jerusalemites is clearly meant to enforce Tel Aviv's rejection of East Jerusalem as being part of the occupied territories and, therefore, not a subject for negotiations. Accepting or better still yielding to such Israeli demands has put the Palestinians' last word on hold pending further clarifications and assurances that Mr. Baker is supposed to iron out during his forthcoming trip.

Such a last ditch effort by Mr. Baker had been temporarily dashed when U.S. President George Bush announced at a news conference in Kennebunkport, Maine, last week that "there are no plans" to send Secretary Baker back to the area. This fortunately turned out not to be the final word on the subject as more recent pronouncements by Mr. Baker confirm that his trip to the Middle East is imminent. More troubling, however, was President Bush's other comment on the peace process when he said that "the ball lies in the other courts."

The President may have been thinking mostly of the Palestinians when he suggested that the ball lies in the others courts because they are the only remaining party that has yet to signal its willingness to talk and negotiate peace. In other words, Washington may be thinking in terms of persuading the Palestinians to yield to the infamous Israeli demands or risk sabotaging the entire peace process.

The Palestinians are obviously cornered and find themselves in a no win situation. They are damned if they go to the peace conference and damned if they do not. Meanwhile, Tel Aviv likes nothing more than see the demise of the peace talks because it never wanted things to go that far in the first place. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his inner government were counting all along on an "Arab no" to derail the American peace efforts. Yet for the Palestinians to send out a green light on Israeli conditions could be tantamount to losing out on two very fundamental points that touch the heart of the matter even before the negotiations are formally launched. No wonder the Palestinians are in such a bind not sure which way to turn.

On the other hand, as the struggling Palestinians in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, are in fact the other side of the PLO coin, then one may rightfully entertain the acceptance of the thesis that the Palestinian organisation and Palestinians under occupation are indivisible with each part representing the other. After all the Palestinians there constitute the bulk of the PLO's constituency. For tactical reasons at least, leaders of the Palestinian intifada should be allowed to go ahead and challenge the Israelis to the negotiation table.

Accordingly if the Palestinians under occupation and the PLO are not identical twins, they are at least twins of a sort. For the sake of calling the Israeli bluff, one would venture to propose the elimination of this point from the thorny agenda that awaits resolution. As for Jerusalem, as long as the city will be kept on the negotiating table, it makes little difference whether Mr. Faysal al-Husayni or Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi will do the negotiation on its behalf.

The Palestinians should concentrate on substance rather than modalities and as long as the heart of the matter will be addressed, then there is no reason to play into the Israeli hands by procrastinating any further. With the Bush administration now in the midst of a tug of war over the Israeli request for a $10 billion loan guarantee, it needs and deserves all the help it can galvanise in order to come out ahead in the current standoff between Washington and Tel Aviv.

## Syrian Premier al-Zu'bi Praises Relations

*JN0909060191 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi has praised the fraternal relations between Jordan and Syria. He stressed the need to entrench these relations to fulfill the ambitions and needs of the two fraternal peoples.

Last night when he received Minister of Public Works and Housing Engineer Sa'd Hayil al-Surur and Minister of Industry and Trade Engineer 'Ali Abu-al-Raghib, al-Zu'bi called for self-reliance and for continued consultations and coordination between the concerned officials in all fields. He expressed his country's readiness to develop cooperation and services between the two countries.

### Iran's Khonsari Meets With Fadlallah in Beirut

*LD0909144291 Tehran IRNA in English 1248 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Beirut, Sept. 9, IRNA—Latest developments in Lebanon including the situation of Muslims were discussed here Monday by 'Allamah Mohamed Husayn Fadlallah and Iran's Foreign Ministry Director General for Arab-North African Affairs Hojjat-ol-Eslam Mohamed Kazem Khonsari.

Hoj. Khonsari stressed Iran's overall support for the "tyrannised people of Lebanon" against the pressures of the illegal Zionist regime and its backers.

'Allamah Fadlallah praised Iran's effective role in preserving solidarity of world Muslims and its efforts for the Lebanese people.

### Meets Hizballah's al-Musawi

*NC1009063691 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] Shaykh Mohammad Jawad Khonsari, director of the Middle East and African Department at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, continued his meetings with Lebanese officials. He met with Hizballah Secretary General Seyyed 'Abbas al-Musawi, Ayatollah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, and Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz. He also met with President Ilyas al-Hirawi and conveyed to him a message from Hojjat Ol-Eslam Shaykh Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Following his meeting with the Hizballah secretary general, Shaykh Khonsari made a statement in which he said: I had the honor of meeting with His Eminence Mujahid 'Allamah 'Abbas al-Musawi. We discussed the various Lebanese-related and regional issues, particularly the central issue of the Islamic nation—Palestine. We also discussed the coordination of the resistance work to liberate the south and holy Jerusalem.

Shaykh Khonsari revealed that the issue of the resistance will be on the agenda of the forthcoming meeting between the Lebanese and Iranian foreign ministers. He reiterated that the Islamic Republic of Iran is interested in preserving the Lebanese territorial integrity, as well as in the liberation of the south.

Shaykh Khonsari revealed the contents of the oral message he conveyed to President al-Hirawi from Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. He said the message deals with the issue of Palestine, as well as the need to maintain constant cooperation and coordination among the various Muslim and Arab countries and to make every effort to liberate Palestine. [passage omitted]

### Delivers Message to al-Hirawi

*LD0909153291 Tehran IRNA in English 1428 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Beirut, Sept. 9, IRNA—Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi today received a message from Iranian President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here today. The message was delivered by Foreign Ministry Director-General for Arab-North African Affairs, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohamed Kazem Khonsari in a meeting, where the two also discussed expansion of mutual relations. Al-Hirawi expressed hope that the Iranian, Lebanese and Palestinian hostages as well as other detainees would be released soon, although the Zionist regime makes impediments in this regard. On Zionist allegations that Iran is holding an Israeli pilot, Hoj. Khonsari said such absurd claims are not surprising to the Islamic Republic. Rafsanjani's message to his Lebanese counterpart is said to be dealing with the conspiracies against the Palestinian people, and the need for cooperation and solidarity among the world's independent nations.

### Hizballah Radio Interviews al-Musawi

*NC0609123091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0737 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Interview with Hizballah Secretary General 'Abbas al-Musawi by unidentified announcer on the "Friday Encounter" program—live]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] How does Your Eminence assess your recent visit to Tehran? Please tell us about the topics you discussed.

[Al-Musawi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. May peace and prayers go to Prophet Muhammad and his blessed relations and companions. Let me first thank the dear brothers at the Voice of the Oppressed, the voice of right, for their tremendous efforts and for giving me this opportunity to speak to our people at this important stage.

My recent visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran was one of the most significant events in the history of our Islamic action, because it followed a series of momentous developments in the region and in Lebanon. Among these developments were the events in the Gulf and their repercussions on the entire region in general and our causes in particular, the settlement process the United States has undertaken in coordination with the Soviet Union, and the important things that have happened here in Lebanon. It is natural that we, as members of an Islamic movement that has relations with His Eminence leader Ayatollah Khamene'i, may God preserve him, and with the blessed Islamic Republic and the dear Muslim Iranian people, would hold such meetings at such a critical time. Thus, one of the reasons for this visit was to give us the opportunity to examine these developments with the brothers in the Islamic Republic. We

exchanged views on these developments and their ramifications and on what should be done next. Furthermore, we in Lebanon are facing a new stage as far as the domestic situation is concerned. There has also been a great transformation—both qualitative and quantitative—in terms of Israel's threats against the Lebanese arena. Therefore, we and our brothers in the Islamic Republic conducted a comprehensive review of the need to bolster our oppressed arena in Lebanon, and we sensed from the brother officials in the Islamic Republic a growing realization of their responsiblities in this arena. Thank God, the visit was very successful overall, and, God willing, its practical results will provide conclusive confirmation of my words.

[Announcer] Your Eminence, you met with leader Khamene'i, may God preserve him. Did you bring any message from him to his sons in Lebanon?

[Al-Musawi] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic nation, cares for the concerns of the Muslims throughout the world and attaches particular value to the concerns of our unjustly treated Muslim people in Lebanon—just as he does to all our regional causes, particularly the issue of Jerusalem, which is the Muslims' foremost cause. Thus, his eminence, may God preserve him, wants the Islamic nation and all Muslims to measure up to their responsiblities in terms of the settlement process and the U.S. role at this stage. We all know that if the U.S. role, which supports Israel, is allowed to go unchecked, Israel, the Israeli plan, and the Israeli role will be further entrenched. This prompted Ayatollah Khamene'i to urge the Islamic nation and the Muslims in the region, particularly those in the hizballah nation, the Islamic Resistance, and the Islamic intifadah in Palestine, to shoulder their responsibilities in terms of the dangers represented by the settlement and the U.S. and Israeli designs. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] It is being said that the Islamic resistance is the target of an undeclared war by at least some government officials. Some officials say the resistance will last so long as the occupation does. Prime Minister 'Umar Karami said something to this effect only yesterday. Others, however, hint that the resistance is responsible for all the damage inflicted on the south. We should also remember the arrest campaigns being carried out under various pretexts. What does the future hold for the resistance and for our faithful listeners?

[Al-Musawi] Concerning the issue of the government and its views on the resistance, we have already said that these views are neither correct nor appropriate. Throughout its history—going back in the days of Amin al-Jumayyil and even before him—the Lebanese state has never lived up to its responsibility in terms of resisting the Israeli threat and supporting the resistance.

The resistance has always relied on the people. Can you mention one time since 1982 when the Lebanese state faced up to its responsibilities toward the Israeli enemy? What the Lebanese state did was sign the 17 May agreement. It is the people who shouldered their responsibility and continued the jihad until they inflicted a heavy blow on the Israeli enemy.

Now, following the changes on the Lebanese scene, we see nothing but complete negligence. It is true that some government officials pay occasional lip service to the resistance and say resistance should continue until Israel withdraws completely from Lebanon. Such statements are, however, at odds with the government's policy and are unrepresentative of its character. The Lebanese Government is generally hostile to the resistance. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] One of our listeners believes that the prospects for freedom and jihad in Lebanon are tied to relations between Iran and Syria. He wants to know your view of these relations.

[Al-Musawi] Relations between the beloved Islamic Republic and the Syrian Arab Republic have been and are now strong and positive. There has always been cooperation between the Islamic Republic and Syria. We see only understanding and cooperation between them. Each country understands the circumstances of the other; they recognize that circumstances in the Islamic Republic are different from those in Syria. What matters is that both show understanding toward the other's circumstances.

Needless to say, the Islamic Republic bases its ties with Syria and other countries on certain principles. The policy of the Islamic Republic is based on unshifting principles. The Islamic Republic bases its relations with Arab countries, particularly those which are adjacent to Palestine and confronting the Israeli enemy, on their hostility to Israel. As long as Syria remains hostile to Israel and is committed to supporting the resistance and the intifadah, and as long as this position is shared by the other countries adjacent to Palestine, the blessed Islamic Republic will have relations with Syria and those countries. The only reason for the estrangement between the Islamic Republic and Egypt is Camp David; since the founding of the Islamic Republic, there has been no other source of friction between it and Egypt but this.

Syria is continuing to express its commitment to the resistance and to the intifadah in Palestine and has announced that it will not abandon one inch of Arab and Islamic land. As long as this is the Syrian position, it is natural that its relations with the Islamic Republic will remain positive. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] One of our brother listners wants to know if the case of Imam Musa al-Sadr will be incorporated into the hostages file.

[Al-Musawi] Imam Musa al-Sadr was really the first hostage; he became a hostage before any hostage was taken in Lebanon. Imam al-Sadr, his family, and the Lebanese Muslims were all victimized by a foolish act of the Libyan Government. It would not be right, however, to include him in the hostages file or any swap, as his

case does not concern the parties involved in the hostage issue. You can use an American hostage to pressure America or to make it pressure Israel or another country with which it has leverage. This makes sense. You can make demands on America or pressure Israel in a certain context, but this does not apply here. This matter does not belong in the context of a hostage swap. The issue of Imam al-Sadr must remain alive and should be raised on every occasion, but efforts to obtain his release should take a course different from that followed to pressure Israel or America. [passage omitted]

### Army Encircles Phalangist Party Headquarters

*NC0909183491 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in English 1700 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] An Army elite squadron today encircled the headquarters of the Phalangist party in al-Sayfi at a time when an enlarged party meeting was convening in the presence of two members of government and five members of parliament.

Squadron members demanded removal from the building's facade of the Lebanese and Phalangist flags and their replacement by smaller ones.

Phalangist Leader Dr. George Sa'adah said he immediately telephoned each of President Ilyas al-Hirawi, Prime Minister 'Umar Karami, Defense Minister Michel al-Murr, and Army Commander General Emile Lahhud, refusing to meet anyone else before the incident was settled.

At 1800 today, and while the Phalangist Party political bureau was holding an extraordinary session, Defense Minister Michel al-Murr arrived in al-Sayfi, mandated by President al-Hirawi and Prime Minister Karami to deal with the incident. [passage omitted]

### Defense Minister Comments

*NC1009063991 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] Defense Minister Michel al-Murr has termed the encirclement of the Phalangist Central Headquarters in al-Sayfi as an isolated incident with no ulterior motive. He emphasized that measures will be taken to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents.

Meanwhile, Telecommunications Minister Dr. George Sa'adah has emphasized that there has been no cabinet decision to remove flags from party centers and the Phalangist Political Bureau. He was satisfied with Minister al-Murr's explanation on the subject.

### 'Text' of Lebanese-Syrian Agreement Published

*NC0909163491 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 7 Sep 91 p 2*

["Text" of the draft defense and security agreement between Lebanon and Syria ratified on 17 August; ratifying body not given]

[Text] Based on the Brotherhood, Cooperation, and Coordination Treaty between the Lebanese Republic and the Syrian Arab Republic signed in Damascus on 22 May 1991 and ratified by the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies on 27 May 1991 in Beirut, including its third, fifth, and sixth Articles, particularly Clause 5 of the sixth Article, agreement has been reached on the following:

1. The structure:

A defense affairs committee consisting of the two countries' defense and interior ministers is to be formed. This committee will meet every three months, alternating between the capital cities of Beirut and Damascus or in any other location agreed upon, and will also meet whenever it is deemed necessary. The committee may seek assistance from any of the chiefs of the two countries' security authorities or from the chiefs of other branches of the two ministries. The army commands, the security services, and other concerned administrative departments will meet every month, alternating between the capital cities and will meet whenever the need arises at an agreed-upon location to implement the defense and security committees' programs and supervise their details.

2. The tasks:

The defense and security affairs committee is charged with studying ways to safeguard the two states' security and with proposing joint plans to confront any aggression or threat against their national security and to confront any disturbance which may upset either country's internal security.

In implementation of the contents of Article III of the Brotherhood, Cooperation, and Coordination Treaty, the following must be realized:

—In a bid to reaffirm the two states' pledge and ensure that Lebanon does not become a source of threats against Syria's security and vice versa, the military and security authorities in the two countries must implement the following:

A. Ban all military, security, political, and media activity that might harm the other country;

B. Refuse to give refuge to, facilitate the passage of, or provide protection to persons and organizations that work against the other state's security. If such persons or organizations take refuge in either of the two states, this state must arrest them and hand them over to the other side at the latter's request;

C. To enable the military and security services in each of the two states carry out their duty of implementing the aforementioned Clauses A and B, these services must meet regularly in each of the two countries to exchange information involving all issues of strategic, national, and internal security, including those related to drugs, major financial crimes, terrorism, and espionage. The military and security services will coordinate their work to follow up and resolve these issues within each country

as well as abroad and will cooperate with international institutions as necessary. All legal and procedural steps must be taken to facilitate the joint action of the two states' authorities as part of the agreement to expedite the adoption of legal prosecution and ways to solve these problems;

D. Defense affairs—the two countries' defense ministries and their relevant departments will meet every three months, alternating between the captial cities, and as necessary, to exchange information on everything that concerns the two countries's security and all hostile activities in a bid to reach a mutual understanding on the dangers and their dimensions, and, consequently, to draw up integrated plans at various levels to confront these dangers. In this regard, the two Defense Ministries will establish joint organs to follow up and supervise strategic coordination;

E. The two countries' Ministries of Defense and Interior will increase the exchange of officers and troops through training courses at various levels, including the exchange of military instructors in the military colleges in order to achieve a high standard in military coordination and adequate familiarity to confront common threats; and

F. The ministerial committee for defense and security affairs will draw up the necessary plans to promote exchange and development in each country's civil defense field.

3. Final provisions:

In addition to its tasks, the defense and security committee will do the following:

—It will follow up the implementation of all the provisions of the agreement and will give the necessary instructions to ensure its progress, and

—It will propose to the Supreme Council the bases, principles, and regulations that are bound to ensure full and effective implementation of the agreement.

## Israeli Reconnaissance Drone Crashes

*NC0709165191 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] This afternoon, Lebanese Army personnel found the engine of the military plane that had crashed in Sayyidat al-Qarn in al-Laqluq area. Code numbers can be read on the engine, and security authorities are trying to determine the plane's identity.

It has been reiterated that the plane was an Israeli reconnaissance drone, while AFP has cited a military source which indicated that the plane was Soviet made.

### President al-Asad Receives Afghan Vice President

*JN0809110991 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1015 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at noon today Afghan Vice President 'Abdul Rahim Hatif. The meeting was attended by Vice President Dr. Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, and Afghan Ambassador in Damascus 'Abdul Fatah Weydi.

### Further on Meeting

*JN0809160291 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Afghan Vice President 'Abdul Rahim Hatif at 1200 today. The meeting was attended by Vice President Dr. Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah and Afghan Ambassador in Damascus 'Abdul Fatah Weydi.

'Abdul Rahim Hatif conveyed a message and greetings from Afghan President Najibullah to his excellency the president. The president asked the Afghan vice president to convey his greetings to President Najibullah. The talks centered on the situation in Afghanistan.

### Loan Guarantees to Israel Do Not Serve Peace

*JN0509081091 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 5 Sep 91*

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AL-THAWRAH discusses the provocative settlement policy practiced by Israel. Under the headline "Settlement," the newspaper asks the international community to shoulder its responsibilities and take the appropriate measures to curb Israel and put an end to its rebellion against international legitimacy.

AL-THAWRAH says: Without anticipating any results, one can safely say that the international peace conference to be held in October will first and foremost clash with the Israeli settlement policy which is the greatest obstacle to finding appropriate means to proceed to establish a just and comprehensive peace.

AL-THAWRAH adds: The international community now knows full well the dangers of the settlement policy to the peace march in the region. It now knows what Israel wants and underhandedly seeks with its policy, which is aimed at destroying a just and permament solution. It now has hundreds of pieces of evidence at its disposal attesting to the fact that Israel is an expansionist, aggressive, and racist entity living off the suffering and toil of others. Israel also wants the region to continue to be a dangerous hotbed of tension because the situation provides it with the right atmosphere to arrange expansion schemes and realize ambitions of control.

AL-THAWRAH goes on: As the settlement policy constitutes the major obstacle to peace efforts and threatens to thwart them and bring them to a dead end, it is strange for us to hear periodically that Shamir's government asks for guarantees from the United States and Germany for loans of billions of dollars to finance the settlement process. If given, such guarantees can in no way serve the interest of peace and cannot help to realize it. In fact, they can be considered an encouragement to Israel to continue its stubbornness and belligerence. They also appear as support for its rigid stance, which fully contradicts the demands for peace.

### Israelis Said Blackmailing Superpowers

*JN0709180191 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The only interpretation of what is going on around us within the framework of the international efforts to establish peace in the region is that Israel is blackmailing the major international powers to the maximum before it gives final approval to mere participation in the proposed peace conference, even if this participation eventually further complicates the situation and blocks a just and comprehensive peace for a long time.

As we hear and see today, Israel is trying to get huge loans from the United States in the amount of $10 billion in the form of financial guarantees to use it to finance the construction of new settlements and to house hundreds of thousands of new Jewish immigrants in the occupied Arab territories. This is taking place while Washington, through ranking Administration officials, is voicing indignation over the settlement activity recently sweeping Israel, crgating difficult obstacles for international efforts toward peace in the region. This is also taking place at a time when State Department sources have admitted that Israel's settlement policy is now viewed as the major obstacle to the efforts to convene the peace conference for a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East crisis that has exhausted the region over the past four decades, caused so much destruction, and kept it busy at the grinding mill of fierce wars.

Israel knows in advance that the request it has submitted to Washington, regardless of the fact that it constitutes an unmatched provocation to the Arabs, will lead to one of two results: The first is that Washington will approve it and, consequently, will contradict itself, will lose credibility, and will give the kiss of death to peace, something that Washington does not intend to do according to statements by the highest official in the U.S. Administration. The second is for the United States to reject the Israeli request. This will give Israel the excuse to refrain from participating in the peace conference and from pursuing the dialogue for a just and comprehensive solution in the region. In both cases, Israel will be standing by its major aggressive scheme which is not in line with any of the peace formulas. In both cases too, Israel will be under no obligation to take a single step

toward peace since the loan guarantees, which are giving rise to a clamor today, will be used in a project that conflicts with peace, and since its nonattendance will lead to the collapse of international efforts, making the world despair as to the possibility of reaching a solution for which the Arabs have paved all the roads and have provided all the chances.

President Bush, who from the White House rostrum is repeating the call, give peace in the Middle East a chance, has become aware of the magnitude of the blackmail Israel is practicing against the U.S. Administration and people. He is aware too of the meaning of the game Israel is playing to dim the sight in all eyes waiting for the sun of peace to shine. Who, then, should give a chance to peace in the Middle East? Who is defying peace, challenging the will of the international community, and threatening international peace in this region. Is it not Israel?

## U.S.-Israeli 'Diplomatic Confrontation' Viewed

*JN0809081491 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0330 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-BA'TH comments on the diplomatic confrontation between the United States and Israel and reviews the tricks of Shamir—who did not deny his terrorist nature—against U.S. officials, and his attempts to portray the U.S. Administration as a Zionist dependent. The newspaper affirms that Shamir's coming European tour aims to justify his obstruction of the peace conference. The Zionist organizations began a campaign in the United States to force Washington to recognize Israel's occupation of the Arab territory through the Israeli request to receive a big loan to finance settlement-building.

AL-BA'TH says: As a professional terrorist, Shamir is trying to make himself look stronger than the U.S. Administration in the United States itself. By presenting the request for the loan for settlement-building he is challenging President Bush's call. He is placing himself on the same level as the president of America, and appears to be threatening him when he sets the condition of entrenching the occupation of the Arab territory, considering this a subject that cannot be discussed at the international peace conference. Shamir, thereby, is attempting to disprove President Bush's initiative calling for land in exchange for peace.

AL-BA'TH adds: The world is confident that a terrorist like Shamir cannot be peaceful regardless of the side putting pressure on him. The paper affirms that Israel cannot adopt a defiant position in the absence of U.S. support and that America is the only side that can force Shamir and his government to respect the international will.

AL-BA'TH asks: Will the diplomatic confrontation between Israel and the U.S. Administration end in the interest of peace? Or, will this confrontation end, as the previous ones ended, by holding the Zionist lobby responsible for foiling U.S. credibility?

The newspaper TISHRIN deals with the loan guarantees, which Israel insists on requesting from the United States. TISHRIN says: U.S. President George Bush's step to delay discussion of Israel's request for $10 billion has angered Israeli officials, who quickly organized a campaign against the U.S. Administration. The Zionist lobby in the United States has prepared a strategy to face the American stand. All this clearly shows that Israel will resort to blackmail not only to bypass Bush's decision, but also to create obstacles and place new conditions to undermine the peace process and abort the political efforts to convene the peace conference on the set date.

TISHRIN adds: President Bush was able to record a new victory for the U.S. Administrations in its efforts to achieve peace. He triumphed at the beginning of this confrontation and achieved solidarity which neither the Zionist lobby nor Israel were able to affect or curb its escalation and expansion. Furthermore, this solidarity has placed Israel in an impasse, because its rejection of peace and the efforts to achieve it was exposed. American voices were heard loudly calling for supporting Bush in his decision to urge the Congress to postpone discussion of Israel's request to obtain $10 billion loan guarantees.

AL-THAWRAH's commentary deals with Israel's renewal of its intransigent stands rejecting a just and comprehensive peace on the basis of land in exchange for peace as adopted by international legitimacy. Israel is renewing these stands through a new battle to effort to make peace impossible.

AL-THAWRAH says: The Israeli state budget figures are a practical expression of its refusal to freeze settlement-building and of its efforts to double Jewish immigration measures and settlements. The enemy government allocated large sums in the new budget to build new settlements in the West Bank and Gaza.

AL-THAWRAH reviews world resentment of the Israeli budget figures because of their effect on the future of the peace process. The paper affirms that in the view of all international quarters, including the U.S. political quarters, settlements are the stumbling block to peace.

Concluding, AL-THAWRAH says: U.S. refusal to give Israel financial guarantees to absorb new immigrants wins a round in the battle for peace.

## Afghanistan

### Soviet Delegation Dismisses Opposition 'Rumors'

*LD0909175191 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] General Gholam Faruq Yaqubi, minister of State Security, met this morning in his office with the delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union. The minister of State Security talked about the military political situation in the country and the recent development in connection with a political solution of the Afghanistan problem. He gave comprehensive information to the delegation about the efforts of the state of the Republic of Afghanistan toward implementating the national reconciliation policy.

General Gholam Faruq Yaqubi stressed the historic and tradition friendship between people of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and considered the role of the parliamentary delegation in consolidation of this friendship as positive.

For its part the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet expressed thanks for the warm welcome and hospitality shown to them in Afghanistan and gave information about the recent developments in the Soviet Union. It added that the efforts by the reactionary forces to crush democracy and seeking to suppress it by means of the state coup d'etat have failed completely. As a result of this new grounds have been created to deepen democracy and reforms in the Soviet Union.

The delegation also touched on the matter of further consolidation of friendship between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, adding that during the harsh days of the coup d'etat our friendly relations were tested. The principled stance of the leadership of Afghanistan in connection with the failed coup d'etat was warmly welcomed by the leaders and people of the Soviet Union.

The delegation added that its visit to Afghanistan, which is in fact the first visit by the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union after the failed coup d'etat and the holding of the extraordinary Congress of People's Deputies of the Soviet Union by itself manifests the interests of the government and people of the Soviet Union for further strengthening friendship, the continuation of assistance to the Republic of Afghanistan, and expansion of mutual beneficial cooperation.

The delegation added that the rumors which are being spread by your [Afghan] opposition recently, taking advantage of the recent developments in the Soviet Union aimed at psychological pressure on the people of Afghanistan, do not have any logical foundation. For, rumors do not determine the policy of the Soviet Union on Afghanistan. The extraordinary Congress of People's Deputies of the Soviet Union stressed once again the Soviet Union's commitment to fully observe its international obligations and agreements.

The meeting was attended by Habib Mangal, member of the International Relations Commission of the Wolasi Jerga, and Aleksandr Obolov, minister counsellor of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

### Ambassador Pastukhov Explains Soviet Developments

*LD0909170491 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] An explanatory meeting was held this morning at the headquarters of the Defense Ministry of the Republic of Afghanistan in connection with the recent developments in the Soviet Union.

Boris Nikolayevich Pastukhov, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union to Afghanistan gave information about the recent developments in the Soviet Union, the decisions of the 5th Congress of the People's Deputies of the Soviet Union, and also about its international commitments at the meeting, which was attended by Defense Minister General Mohammad Aslam Watanjar and a number of the members of the leaderships of the ministries of Internal Affairs and State Security.

### 'Fierce Fighting' in Ghazni; Fighter Plane Downed

*BK0809114891 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan speak of fierce fighting between mojahedin and Kabul regime forces in Ghazni Province. Mojahedin launched a severe attack on the Kabul regime forces in (Dar-e Qaya) and Khvajeh 'Omri areas. According to the reports, the Kabul regime jet fighters bombed civilian areas in (Jarmah Pol) as a result of which civilian population of the area suffered heavy losses in men and material. During the operation, mojahedin shot down one fighter plane.

### Resistance Says 16 Officers Killed

*BK0909140491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1327 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 9 (AFP)—Guerrillas killed at least 16 Afghan Army officers and shot down one helicopter as fighting erupted in southern Ghazni Province, resistance sources said Monday.

The mojahedin-run MIDIA News Agency said the guerrillas, who are fighting the pro-Moscow government in Kabul, launched an attack on an important government post on the outskirts of the historic Afghan city last week.

The post was heavily fortified during the Soviet Army's nine-year occupation of Afghanistan which ended in 1989, the report said, without giving its exact location.

The attackers set fire to an ammunition depot, destroying some military vehicles and leaving 16 officers dead, MIDIA reported.

Army planes launched retaliatory air strikes, in which they bombed the nearby resistance strongholds of Robat and Zinakhan, injuring three civilians and destroying several mojahedin positions, the report said.

Mojahedin gunners shot down one attacking helicopter, raising to three the number of choppers destroyed in the area since last week, it said.

In another report MIDIA said the mojahedin captured 11 government troops when it attacked a military post in northern Jauzjan Province's Saripul District Friday.

The rebels seized nine AK-47 rifles, a rocket launcher and a machine-gun, it said.

Afghan observers said the Jauzjan operation was significant as the region along the Soviet border was considered a government stronghold.

The area supplies trusted Jauzjani militia to embattled Afghan ruler Najibollah, who has also recruited a number of local tribes into his elite presidential guard.

## Saudi Group Sent To Mediate Between Mujahidin

*LD1009011391 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2050 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 9 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, is concerned about Islamic issues and the issue of the Afghan jihad. Upon hearing the news of the differences and the fighting that have taken place between some Afghan mujahidin factions in the liberated province of Konarha, the king sent a delegation consisting of Dr. 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-Muhsin al-Turki, president of the Imam Muhammad Bin-Sa'ud Islamic University; Dr. Salih Bin-'Abdallah Bin-Hamid, imam and preacher at al-Haram Mosque; Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Salih al-Qasir, caller [ar-da'iyah] at the chairmanship of the organ of scientific research, call, and guidance; and Dr. 'Ali Bin-Ibrahim al-Namlah, director general of the general organ for the collection of donations for the Afghan mujahidin. This delegation is to find out the truth about what has happened and to try to reconcile the factions.

The delegation immediately went to the positions of the Afghan mujahidin and made the necessary contacts with the concerned parties. The delegation conveyed the interests of the custodian of the two holy mosques and the Muslims and ulema of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the Afghan jihad, their pain over what has happened, and their fear of the possible effect of these events on the great cause of the liberation of Afghanistan and its restoration to the family of Islamic states.

His Excellency Dr. 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-Muhsin al-Turki, head of the delegation, said that the delegation found great understanding for its task among the leaders of the Afghan jihad and those in Pakistan who cooperate with them [as heard] and who are concerned for their cause. Everyone thanked the officials in the kingdom, under the leadership of the custodian of the two holy mosques and appreciated this effort at reconciliation and the narrowing of the gap. They also expressed regret and pain at what has happened.

After intensive meetings and consultations, agreement was reached between Hezb-e Eslami, which is under the leadership of Golboddin Hekmatyar, and Shaykh (Sami-'ollah), head of the society for the propagation of the Koran and Sunnah, on the following:

1. It is necessary to continue the agreed cease-fire, to not limit it by any date, and to solve any ensuing dispute through negotiations, talks, and resorting to reconciliation and arbitration committees;

2. The siege imposed on the mujahidin in Konarha must be lifted, opening the road for all sides so that provisions and medicines can arrive and the wounded can be transfered; and removing the inspection points in the province in order to remove any embarrassment and to avoid the renewal of the sedition;

3. The situation in Konarha Province must be returned to what it was before the commencement of the dispute; the military forces of the two sides must be withdrawn; and rights must be restored to lawful owners according to the findings of the reconciliation committee;

4. The reconciliation committee, which was previously accepted by all sides, must be allowed to do its job and so as to hasten the conclusion of the conflict so that all sides can concentrate on the completion of the liberation of Afghanistan under the current circumstances;

5. Implementatin of these points must be promised, and all concerned parties must cooperate in this implementation.

The rest of the leaders of the Afghan mujahidin have supported this agreemet and issued a joint communique in which they stress the importance of implementing it, of enabling the reconciliation committee to carry out its job, and of forming a security team from all the organizations to be at the disposal of the reconciliation committee so that it will be able to carry out its job and to make sure of implementing what has been agreed.

They agreed to stress to their followers to be careful in their media statements and to refrain from offending any side, as well as to continue the consultations and exchange of views and cooperation in solving the problems.

They also agreed to form a jurisprudence judicial committee to settle the disputes and problems that might occur among the sides at the level of all Afghan mujahidin. The rulings of this committee will be binding for all sides.

They also agreed to form a media committee to control what is issued by the organizations in the Afghan arena in order to avoid the abuse and accusations that could

harm the cause, and to specify a responsible information quarter for every party that will be its official spokesman.

His excellency added that the delegation was reassured about the commitment of the Afghan mujahidin to uniting their statements, cooperating, healing the rift, and removing the disputes and their effects. The delegation learned that there are exaggerations in what was relayed about what happened among the conflicting factions and that there are rumors that are incompatible with the reality witnessed by the mujahidin leaders. These exaggerations and rumors do not serve the interests of the Afghan cause and the Islamic causes in general, but give rise to confusion and doubts that are exploited by the enemies of Islam and Muslims.

The leaders of the Afghan mujahidin are committed to their cause and to their jihad for Islam, and the support of right and the defeat of wrong. Any effort made by them for these purposes is a jihad with them and support for them. [passage omitted]

### Hekmatyar Notes Threats to His Life

*BK0909101891 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Sep 91 p 3*

[Text] Peshawar, Sept 8: The chief of Hezb-e Eslami-e Afghanistan [HEA], engineer Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, has said that time will reveal the true facts and designs behind the assassination threat to his life by an Iranian official daily, KEYHAN INTERNATIONAL, reports Afghan News Agency.

In an interview with a group of Arab journalists inside Afghanistan (Friday [6 September]) he said that the death decree against his person is not the result of personal grudge against him or anything unexpected and surprising.

But I can say that when HEA did not attend the tripartite Tehran conference the task flopped and it infuriated Iran, he remarked.

He said that a handful of the sectarianist elements in Iran are opposing the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan. They are scared of the strength and discipline of HEA which is determined to establish a true Islamic government in Afghanistan.

He blamed such elements for conspiring against those who are holding the candle of Islamic Jihad in Afghanistan. These are the elements who stress on the formation of a coalition government in Afghanistan and ever prefer the regime of Najib over that of the Mojahedin, he maintained.

He cited the second factor for this decree-Iran's proclivity towards the West and in order to appease the West Iran has resorted to such flagrant threats.

He recalled that in the past, Iran passed such decrees agianst imperialist forces but now the prejudiced elements have influenced the politics of Iran and it has been holding out threats to Muslim leaders.

He expressed his confidence that the people of Iran were strongly opposed to the new political trend which is influenced by the sectarianists who are in minority. He said that the people of Iran and Afghanistan are brothers and have common interests.

Commenting on the strife between the two Mojahedin parties in Konarha, Engineer Hekniatyar said that when contacted by Jamaatud Dawatul Quran Wal Sunnah he held out assurances to Maulvi Samiuttah, the Amir [chief] of the party, that HIA will accept the verdict of the authoritative delegation, appointed by the two sides for resolving bilateral differences.

Regarding the assassination of Maulvi Jamilur Rehman, he said, had his killer not been killed, the real plot behind the martyrdom of Maulvi Jamilur Rehman would have been unearthed. He questioned as to why the killer was killed after being caught alive. Instead of killing the assassin, he should have been handed over to the Pakistani police for a thorough probe in the murder plot, he observed.

The Hezb Amir said that the condition of the puppet regime of Kabul is very miserable due to internal strife and changing global situation. He said that the regime president, Najibollah, had not been able to convene the meeting of central committee in spite of the fact that twice he issued notices to this effect. He revealed that the surrender of regime personnel and officers was on increase now a days. He termed the current changes in Soviet Union as positive.

## India

### Recognition of Baltic States, USSR Talks Viewed

*BK0909160691 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Opposition members in both houses of parliament today protested against the announcement of India's recognition of the three Baltic states outside parliament when it was in session. In the Lok Sabha, they raised the objection when the minister of state for external affairs was to make a suo moto statement on the matter. They said the prime minister's announcement in Bonn was improper and violated the well-established convention. Mr. Faleiro clarified that the recognition had to be granted as soon as the requirements of international laws were fulfilled. Not satisfied, the members insisted on an apology from the government. The matter ended when the parliamentary affairs minister, Mr. Ghulam Nabi Azad, said that that the government feels sorry about it.

In the Rajya Sabha, the minister of state for external affairs informed the house that the announcement about the recognition of the Baltic states of Latvia, Estonia and

Lithuania was made from Indian soil last Saturday [7 September], one day after their recognition by the Soviet Union. He said the changes in the Soviet Union were taking place at a tremendous pace and any delay in taking a decision on recognition would not have been in the nation's interests. He informed the house that India is having continuous dialogue with the Soviet Union on various issues concerning trade, defense and the India-Soviet treaty. Earlier, the members unanimously welcomed the government's decision, but objected with the announcement being made from a foreign soil.

### Effects of Soviet Events on Foreign Policy Viewed

*BK0809030191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0114 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[By Marie-France Rouze]

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 8 (AFP)—The breakup of the Soviet Union is forcing India, one of its closest non-communist allies, to review its foreign policy, already shaken by weak governments and domestic crises.

Diplomats, opposition politicians and the press have already decried what they have called the "incoherence" of the Congress (I) government in the face of fast-moving developments in Moscow.

They have also stressed that New Delhi now completely overhaul its foreign policy which has hinged for years on privileged relations with former communist nations and its leading role in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

When the failed coup against President Mikhail Gorbachev began on August 19, Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao called it a warning to reformers about the need to act with prudence.

His remark was seen here as a suspension of support for Gorbachev.

State secretary for foreign affairs, Eduardo Faleiro, added that in his opinion, what mattered was not individuals, but the interests of a nation— and that bilateral ties would not be affected by the coup.

Once the coup failed, however, Rao welcomed Gorbachev' return with what he called "great satisfaction," and praised the Soviet president's perestroika policies.

Indian opposition politicians accused Rao of "opportunism" and "ineptitude."

Since then, events in the Soviet Union—which on August 9 renewed for 20 years a friendship treaty first inked in 1971—have been foremost in the minds of Indian politics we believe a strong, unified USSR is in our interest," said Inder Kumar Gujral, foreign minister in the government of prime minister V.P. Singh which ruled from December 1989 to November 1990.

"It is going to affect us in the immediate future because most of our defense—Army, Navy, Air Force—is supplied by Moscow," he said.

Gujral also noted the 3.5 billion dollars in trade that India and the Soviet Union conduct every year—trade that includes oil, metals and grain which India buys with rupees.

"We have reasons to feel anxious," the former minister said, adding that it was "necessary to have a national discussion" on the impact of Soviet events while deploring what is seen as New Delhi's lack of a strong voice on the international scene.

Privately, Foreign Ministry officials complain about a lack of political direction, a point that was already being made when the Gulf crisis broke out last year.

The Congress (I), winner of elections last June despite the assassination of its leader Rajiv Gandhi, has blamed India's eclipse in world affairs on weak, unstable minority governments during the preceeding 18 months.

However, Romesh Bhandari, former secretary general of the Foreign Ministry and now the Congress (I)'s top foreign policy expert, has acknowledged that the party is for the moment not dwelling on foreign affairs.

Instead, its MPs and officials are working first on consolidating their majority in parliament in order to tackle an urgent program of economic reforms in the world's second most populous nation after China.

He noted, though, that there is a "quite unique" consensus on Indian foreign policy goals.

Both the government and the opposition agree on the need to better relations with the United States and to develop exchanges with European nations—illustrated by a visit to Germany by Prime Minister Rao.

Both sides also agree that the NAM, founded as a counterpoint to the US-Soviet superpower axis, now must concentrate on reorganizing the world economic order.

During a recent seminar, Foreign Minister Madhavsinh Solanki said the NAM must sustain its identity in order to defend the interests of developing nations, and take the initiative in this area.

Both government and opposition stress too that better relations with China should also be a priority.

But, Gujral said, even if there is consensus, India needs time to get back a starring role on the world stage.

"We are still on an uncertain footing," he said. "We are confronted with the sequels of a hung (non-majority) parliament."

## Prime Minister Rao Continues Visit to Germany

### Seeks German Investment

*BK0809061191 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, has sought Germany's investments to help tide over India's diificult economic situation. He said India has cherished the investment of the time and talent from Germany, but today the country needs investments in more contemporary forms. Inaugurating jointly with Chancellor Dr. Helmut Kohl, the festival of India in the German capital Bonn last evening, he said the festival is a vindication of the affection and affinity the country has with people of Germany. Dedicating the festival to Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, who [word indistinct] three years ago during his visit to Bonn, Mr. Rao said the festival will inspire Germans to come to India and explore its cultural richness first hand. In a speech punctuated by quotations from great German and Indian writers like Goethe, Max Muller, and Kalidas, Mr. Rao said the festival will acquaint the German people with India's values of tolerance and universalism.

Lighting a lamp to mark the opening of the festival, Dr. Kohl said understanding the culture of each country will help in promoting global peace. He also said the Germany will make every effort to present to the Indian people the country's cultural diversity during the German festival to be held in India in 1993-94.

Later, inaugurating the classical music and dance concert, named (Lila), the human resource development minister, Mr. Arjun Singh, said the festival of India is being organized in the German capital Bonn, as a token of gratitude to what Germany has done for India. The prime minister has since left for New Delhi.

### Returns Home 8 Sep

*BK0809085091 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, has expressed confidence that new impetus will be given to Indo-German economic cooperation and a greater flow of technology is expected as a result of his visit to Germany. Talking to newsmen at Delhi Airport on his return from a three-day visit, he said he had detailed discussions with German chancellor Mr. Helmut Kohl and other leaders. He said a whole gamut of international and bilateral relations was discussed and he also took the opportunity to have talks with leaders of business and trade in Germany. Mr. Rao said the economic cooperation between the two countries may result in joint ventures in the course of time. He said even though Germany has some other priorities on their finances, he has been assured that these will not come in the way of furthering economic relations between India and that country.

Referring to the festival of India in Germany which opened yesterday, he hoped that it will add a new dimension to the cultural relations between the two countries.

### Commentary Hails Outcome of Visit

*BK0809132791 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Commentary on "The Prime Minister's Visit to Germany," a voice dispatch from Bonn by AIR correspondent Jagannath Rao]

[Text] If one prefers to consider the basic purpose of his visit and the success of it, there is enough to be ('satisfied) with. Mr. Rao had an in-depth discussion on the momentous changes taking place in different parts of the world and, particularly, the Soviet Union. They could effectively and forcefully put forth the radical economic reforms initiated by his government to the German leaders and businessmen. He told this correspondent before enplaning for Delhi last night that his interaction with German industrialists was very fruitful and expressed the hope that this will help in increasing bilateral cooperation. The interest of the German industrialists to actively participate and invest in India was evident from the free and forthright manner they interacted with the prime minister. Mr. Rao's assertion that the changes that have been brought about were here to stay and that the people and the political parties have agreed to the main thrust of the policy was well received by them. The German businessmen also raised the question of intellectual property right and India's stand at the ensuing GATT meeting. Mr. Rao asked them not to single out an issue and hoped that the package favorable to everyone can be worked out.

In the context of Soviet union, Mr. Rao earlier told newsmen that if independent republics come into being, we will have to fall in line. Yesterday's press statement issued in Bonn seems to be in that direction. The statement has welcomed the resolution passed by the State Council of Soviet Union, granting independence to the Baltic republics and expressed its satisfaction at the peaceful and amicable manner in which the issue has been settled.

In one of his meetings with German leaders, the question of India's military expenditure also came up for discussion. Mr. Rao drew their attention to the cut in military expenditure and also told them that if the security environment in the region improves, the expenditure can be further reduced.

The prime minister's last engagement in the German capital, Bonn, was also effective. He, along with Chancellor Dr. Helmut Kohl, inaugurated the Festival of India at the Opera House. The inaugural program, (Lila), enthralled the audience and it can be the indicator of the response it will receive in the coming six months as the artistes go from town to town to give their performances.

### Prime Minister Rao Pays Official Visit to FRG

*WA0609145591*

For German and New Delhi reportage on the visit by Prime Minister Rao to the Federal Republic of Germany, including reports on his talks with FRG Chancellor Kohl and other ministers, please see the Germany section of the 6 September West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

### President Venkataraman Receives King of Bhutan

*BK1009100091 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] King Jigme Singye Wangchuk of Bhutan today called on the president, Mr. R. Venkataraman, at Rashtrapati Bhavan. They discussed bilateral and global issues. The king appreciated the economic reforms initiated by India and said the neighboring countries will also benefit from them.

### Reportage on Violence, Situation in Assam

#### 2 Dead in Separate Incidents

*BK0809080191 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] In Assam, an ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] engineer Mr. T.S. Raju, one of the eight persons held as hostages by the ULFA [United Liberation Front of Assam], has been killed. His body with bullet injuries was found near Simaluguri railway level crossing in Sibsagar District in Upper Assam this morning. Mr. Raju was kidnapped along with 13 others by the ULFA on 1st of July this year.

In another incident, Mr. Bippul Mahanto convenor of the Assam branch of the Amnesty International was shot dead this morning in Guwahati by two unidentified gunmen. Official sources said the gunmen entered his house and shot Mr. Mahanto and fled away in a motorcycle. He was the mediator between ULFA and the state government in connection with the release of eight hostages held by the ULFA.

#### Oil Officials Strike in Protest

*BK0909041491 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] The scientific and technical officers of ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] all over the country have gone on a day's token strike from 0600 this morning in protest againt the killing of one of their colleagues, Assistant Executive Engineer, Mr. B.S. Raju, by the ULFA [United Libertion Front of Assam] militants in Assam. ONGC sources in New Delhi said that the operations have been affected, but the essential services are being maintained.

The petroleum and gas minister, Mr. B. Shankaranand, has appealed to the employees of the ONGC and the oil industry not to take any precipitate action in the interest of the nation.

#### Strike Affects Operations Nationwide

*BK1009045391 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] operations all over the country have been affected following an indefinite strike by its workers. They are agitating over the killing of one of their colleagues by ULFA [United leberation Front of Assam] militants in Assam. The employees are demanding that the government should provide full protection and secure immediate safe release of four other ONGC officials still held hostage by ULFA. ONGC sources in New Delhi told our correspondent a short while ago that essential services are being maintained.

#### ULFA Linked to Foreign Countries

*BK1009035291 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] The Assam chief minister, Mr. Hiteshwar Saikia, has accused ULFA [United Liberation Front of Assam] of having links with several foreign countries. Speaking in the state assembly, Mr. Saikia said the government is seriously considering the deployment of the army in the state to contain the activities of the outfit.

An official spokesman said one person was shot dead in Drang District, while the manager of a petrol pump was kidnapped at Jorhat yesterday.

### 56 LTTE Sympathizers Arrested in Madras 8 Sep

*BK0909012891 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0035 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] In Madras, 56 people, including six women, have been arrested who attempted to hold a conference in support of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] at Ambattur, a city suburb yesterday. According to police, the LTTE sympathizers were arrested when they came in a procession under the leadership of the president of a human rights association, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam.

#### Warned Not To Hold Meetings

*BK1009081591 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] The Tamil Nadu chief minister, Miss Jayalalitha, has warned the organizers of the pro-LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] meetings and processions with arrest under the National Security Act. Speaking in the State Assembly, the chief minister said that the government will not tolerate any anti-national activity. She said those who proclaimed their loyalty to the LTTE will be dealt with firmly.

### Kashmir Senior Bank Official Kidnapped; 4 Dead

*BK0909144291 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] In Srinagar, militants today kidnapped a senior manager of the Dal Lake branch of the Punjab National Bank, Mr. D.C. Gupta. The militants entered the bank premises around 1100 this morning and took the senior manager away.

Meanwhile, four persons, including two militants were killed in separate incidents in the Kashmir valley during the last 24 hours.

## Iran

### Hashemi-Rafsanjani Second Friday Sermon

*LD0609150391 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1103 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Second Friday prayers sermon by President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani at Tehran University on 6 September—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] An important event,, which must be emphasized and spoken about to some extent today, is what is happening in the Soviet Union. I have spoken in another sermon about the Palestinian issue, which is in some ways more important to us. That, too, is one of the important events of the time, but I have not spoken much about the events in the Soviet Union.

Like me, you undoubtedly think that the event is one of the strange ones of our age and that we had not witnessed an event of such importance in our lives. As to its effects on history, we must, of course, wait and see. It is something like the collapse of the Ottoman Empire or the collapse of the empire of Great Britain. It will possibly have even more important consequences, and has happened in a much stranger and unimaginable way.

Five or six years ago it would really have been difficult to imagine that the future of such a great power, a superpower so to speak, would turn out this way. On the day when the imam [Khomeyni] wrote a letter to Mr. Gorbachev, with courage and bravery, and announced that he was hearing the cracking of the bones of Marxism—it required a boldness like that of the imam's for such a thing to be said. Well, many people were engaging in similar analyses, but to speak from a position like that of the imam's—someone who would have to answer to history and who could not say something and then say, oh well, I was wrong—that was a great thing for the imam to say so early on. [passage omitted]

We must speak briefly now about the factors behind the event, then about the reaction of others, and finally about our own stance. Possibly the most important factor behind these developments must be sought in the contents of the school of Marxism. There are other factors too, but this is the most important one: Marxism was a completely eclectic and contrived school of thought. Some thinkers gathered together and created a school of thought based on all they had read in the world. They presented the school of thought to humanity, and Marxism rapidly advanced because of the very pleasant slogans which they presented to the world on the basis of that school and because of the need which the people had for those slogans. This advance was both through military means and through political and propaganda means.

However, the school contained the seeds of its own destruction. One of the biggest faults of the school was that it emptied people of spirituality, religion, and God. It is very clear to me—it may be the same for many other people—that even if we could build a heaven without a God and present it to the world, that heaven would not endure. Separating humanity from God, the truth of existence—and nature cannot exist as a whole without God—that truth was hidden to them.

Of course, there are many deviations in all schools. Whichever school you look at now, you will find hundreds of deviations from the truth. However, it is the fundamental principle that matters. They made atheism, the denial of God, and the removal of spirituality the principle of their lives. And they presented all those things—which are human values, human achievements, and the requirement of all previous schools—as narcotics, opium, opposed to progress, opposed to development, and as the cause of backwardness. What they did to their own people on this basis is something which will gradually emerge in the future. [passage omitted]

From the point of view of administration, they committed the greatest mistake in history; that is, the concentration of everything—they took everything from the people and gave it to the government, even the choice of place of residence. They completely deprived people of freedom.

They denied all forms of freedom to human beings; the individual had no freedom to choose anything in life—what kind of a job to choose, where to choose to live in, where to go, and so on. This is against human nature in the same way as denial of belief in God is. Thus, in the Marxist regime the state made all the decisions. That was their main administrative problem from which other problems ensued, such as economic problems. That, too, is part of human nature. [passage omitted]

They took all economic incentives away from the people, abolished ownership, and did not allow anybody to own his instruments of production, his land, or his factory. And yet, despite all these undue acts, many individuals tolerated the whole thing because of the good slogans it carried. [passage omitted]

They raised these slogans and kept the people busy with them, but they did not realize them; if they could have achieved them, then their basic mistakes might have been gradually hidden. But that was not to be. The

people realized that new managers replaced the old capitalists in the so-called promised classless society. The prosperity which was to come turned out to be the other way round. Equality failed to materialize. The workers were not given any part in decisionmaking; worse, when they compared their lot with their Western counterparts, they saw that they [Western workers] had a better situation. None of those slogans were achieved. Thus, when a person emerged to say something new, you saw how the people welcomed him.

The strange thing was that when the Communists staged the coup in Moscow, there was no popular support. This raised a question in my mind: When the coup was staged, where were those numerous members of the Communist Party? They used to say that the party has 15-16 million definite members as well as supporters. Why did they not come out to the streets in support of the coup? Supporters of democracy swarmed into the streets to block the path of the tanks, but the Communists did not come. That was a baffling question, which is a very interesting issue. Did the gentlemen leading the coup not know the people, the members of their party? [passage omitted]

These points are of interest from the point of view of ideology; we have worked on that angle. Since the Westerners are on the other side of the equation, one did not feel too free talk. It was not very appetizing for our writers and artists to enter that field, because the Westerners would have benefited. The issue was baffling; it was a baffling defeat for the Communists.

From another point of view, there are a number of other realities worthy of attention. All those different races, all those different sects, all those different religions, all those different ideologies make it a difficult task for anyone who wants to bring them under a single banner, using the force of the army, police, and KGB. This is almost impossible with the different races that live there and all the fanaticism that still exists. That is one side of the case.

The reaction of others, notably that of the West, seems to have been extremely opportunistic, ruthless, and hypocritical. While the Soviet president helped the West by opening up his country and breaking up the grandeur of Marxism, the West played a foul game on him. They are still holding him hostage in order totally to humiliate the Soviet Union, take it captive, and exhaust it to the last breath so that no one else stands against them. You see even now, when they come to pay a visit, they say, for example, that you should do such and such thing before we will help you. They are humiliating the people of the Soviet Union in the name of help. They deceived them pretending that they want to help them. They prepared the conditions in that way, and we see that they continue the same course of action.

The West's intention is somewhat worrisome. One of my concerns is that the humanitarian gestures and social welfare provided for the workers and needy strata in those countries by the West would diminish. In the past they adopted them as a shield against the onslaught of communism. [passage omitted]

If that rival [communism] is pushed aside by the Western countries and they are no longer concerned about the influence of communist slogans over their people, then we do not know what the bloodsucking capitalists of the world will do to the working class strata and toilers of the world. One of the most important future concerns is that attention should be paid to this.

Now, to our position toward the events that have taken place in the Soviet Union. We are not at all sorry to see the downfall of Marxism. We are happy about that. That was what we were told by our imam [Khomeyni]. You saw that our imam—who was not wont to enter a dialogue with governments or exchange delegations with them, principally he did not usually go near administrative issues—you saw that he dispatched that special delegation to Moscow, with its particular combination that he had chosen and wrote that very interesting, historical letter. And then he accepted the Russian delegation, the Soviet delegation. This was one of imam's acts. And it shows his satisfaction. When I was to pay a visit there, I talked with him and he was quite satisfied that process [jarayan] is developing; and I planned the visit with prior consultation with him.

We have no quarrel with the people being rid of this atheistic and unjust system, and we are even satisfied. Therefore, we have always confirmed Mr. Gorbachev's policies. [chants of "God is great," "Khomeyni is the leader," and "God keep you, Hashemi"] [passage omitted]

So the principle of the disintegration of Marxism for us—because of the very religious movement that we have and because we condemn any atheistic and anti-God movement—it is very good for us, and we accept and welcome it.

On the Soviet Union's future, the will of the people there is important to us. If the people decide that all the republics should live together, we are satisfied and will be a good neighbor for them and continue our cooperation and the agreements that we have made with them. If the people want to be completely independent and live in separate republics as one of world states and a neighbor to them, we still are ready to cooperate with them all. And it does not make too much difference whether it is one way or the other. If it is going to be something in between—some form of independence and union and cooperation, the confederation that they have now approved—we still accept it. And we do not want to interfere in their affairs. It does not make much difference to us. We will cooperate with them.

But a method where they discriminate and say that such and such republics shall be independent because the West wants that and such and such republics shall not,

this will be somewhat difficult for us to accept. Nonetheless, if the Soviet people accept it, again we shall not interfere in their affairs. But everything must be dealt with fairly and equally.

So far as we can see, apparently some kind of cooperation is happening through the will of the republics themselves. If this happens—since it is not in our interest that there should be unrest, clashes, and quarrels along our long border—we shall welcome this as well and will cooperate with them. And we hope that they also carry out the pledges that they have given us—and they have carried them out so far.

Of course, like other compassionate human beings we are concerned about the problems that are besetting our neighboring peoples, especially the Muslims there. God willing, they will eliminate those concerns by their own determined efforts. [passage omitted]

### Independence of Baltic Republics Recognized

*LD1009100191 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran recognized the independence of the Republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. A statement issued by our country's Foreign Ministry today says: The Islamic Republic of Iran, in accordance with its general and principled policy of respecting the right of sovereignty of nations, recognizes the full independence of the republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, and announces its readiness for any cooperation in order to expand relations with these countries.

### Tehran Reiterates Refusal To Recognize Israel

*LD0809104391 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Excerpt] At the end of the 10th foreign ministerial session of the Nonaligned Movement in Accra, the Islamic Republic of Iran's delegation stressed: The Islamic Republic of Iran has never officially recognized the existence of the Zionist regime and it never will. It cannot approve any document pertaining to this matter.

Based on Iran's reasoning, the forces of the Qods occupying regime must withdraw from all the occupied lands from the time of the first occupation. Therefore, any talk of withdrawal from the occupied territories since 1967 is not unacceptable.

The Islamic Republic of Iran's delegation has called for changes in clauses 45 and 47 of the final report of the nonaligned movement session and expressed the hope that the movement will pay more attention to the crimes against the people of Palestine and the denial of their rights in its future documents. [passage omitted]

### 'Importance' of Perez de Cuellar Visit Noted

*LD1009111791 Tehran IRNA in English 0911 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA—A morning daily Tuesday attached special significance to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's imminent trip to Tehran due to the prevalent circumstances and also topics he is to discuss with the Iranian officials.

The English-language TEHRAN TIMES in an editorial said: "Of particular importance, from Tehran's point of view, is the implementation of the remaining clauses of the resolution 598." As far as peace and stability in the region is concerned, article eight of the resolution could serve as the focal point of the discussions, said the daily. "But, as regards the issues of the identification of the aggressor and the payment of reparations, Iran is quite anxious that these clauses be executed as soon as possible."

The latter issues, commented the article, are much more urgent in view of the fact that in recent months the U.N. has been extremely active in enforcing the payment of war reparations by Iraq to Kuwait.

The fact is "Iran was the first country to be invaded by Iraq and to suffer the destructive consequences of war imposed by Iraq," worte the editorial.

It drew attention of the U.N. secretary general to the point that if the U.N. is to assume a much more active and effective role in world affairs, it should win the trust of its member countries and their nations.

"When the U.N. adopts two different approaches on two identical cases of aggression in the same geographical locality, the result can not but be distrust among the member nations regarding the U.N. impartiality," said the article. Furthermore, hostage problem will be another issue of discussion, worte the paper adding "Tehran has already said all there is to be said in this connection and won't have anything new to add to what it has already announced."

"It is now up to the secretary general and Western countries having hostages in Beirut, to exert pressure on Israel to release the Palestinian and Lebanese hostages, mostly women and children, as soon as possible," concluded the article.

### 'Tehran Militant Clergy' Issue Statement

*NC0609112091 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 20 Aug 91 p 13*

["Text" of statement published by the Tehran Militant Clergy Association on 19 Aug]

[Text] Once again the rousing voice of the supreme jurisconsult rang in the Hoseyniyeh of Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, through the mouth of the competent successor of the divine leader. The warnings

and advice issued by the esteemed leader to the 'ulema, clergy, and officials of the Islamic system quenched the thirst of souls like nectar and showed them how to serve the servants of God.

The extremely important and guiding remarks by the esteemed leader of the Islamic Revolution, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i—may God prolong his shadow as leader of the Muslims—to the system's clergy and officials is like a guiding light which should always shine to light the path of all of his eminence's addresses nationwide.

In his blessed words, the esteemed leader called on all the officials of every rank be alert to the enemy's deceit and not to neglect their divine, religious, and national duties. He called on the officials to learn from the defeat of the Muslims at the beginning of Islam in the war with Uhud because of their negligence of God and their duties—a defeat imposed on them because they had plunged into materialism and extravagance.

Like the great deceased imam of the ummah, may his soul be sanctified, he stressed to all the officials the need to safeguard divine virtue because "this is the only way to ensure the system's success." He also emphasized that no official in the divine system of the Islamic Republic should believe himself exempt from the need for self-improvement, prayer, benediction, and repentance. He stressed that the officials of the Islamic system should know that the more power and authorities they have, the more their responsibility in safeguarding divine virtue and in fearing God. They will, he added, also be judged according to more stringent measures. This is the only way that "the front of justice can rise to confront the front of evil and achieve its objectives."

The Tehran Militant Clergy Association, bearing in mind the extreme importance and sensitivity of the sagacious directives by the esteemed leader to the system's officials and esteemed clergy, believes it is necessary to point out some things to the great nation, the 'ulema, the esteemed clergy, and officials regarding these venerable remarks.

1. As stated by the esteemed leader, the officials are merely servants of the nation and should display utmost modesty and respect toward the nation. They should refrain from any type of haughtiness, conceit, and pride in front of their benefactors, who are none other than the immense Muslim and devoted nation. They should know that this is the only way they can gain the people's affection, trust, and support and be worthy of their title of "servants" to this nation, a nation that has been oppressed throughout history.

Here it is necessary to highlight the remarks by the esteemed leader that by "people" we mean the deprived and barefoot masses who supported the revolution and the imam, may his soul be sanctified, through all the struggles before and after the victory of the revolution, in all the difficulties and problems that stemmed from the imposed war. We are talking about those who defended the revolution and Islam in other instances despite their difficult living conditions, people who did not spare any of their material or moral belongings, even their dear children, in this quest. These very people are those who form the absolute majority of the nation.

We do not consider the capitalist leeches and seekers of comfort who crept into a corner at the peak of this nation's struggles and sacrifices and who only saw these scenes from their comfortable shells, or who—throughout the revolution and the imposed war—did not show the least bit of sympathy toward the combatants of Islam but damaged the nation and the combatants of Islam with their illegitimately gained money, to be the "people." All the laws, policies, plans, decisions, and steps on all levels and by all officials, both in the esteemed Majlis and in the Islamic Republic of Iran, should be aimed at supporting these deprived and oppressed people. In this effort, the basic benefits and the infrastructure and long-term interests of the deprived have priority over temporary, appeasing, and short-term steps. Thank God, these are envisaged in the programs and policies of the government of the esteemed Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, may his shadow be lengthened. We hope that with the continuation of these programs and popular support, poverty and deprivation will gradually be swept away from the country and a reasonable level of comfort will be created.

2. Due to the current sensitive domestic and foreign situation and the plots by world arrogance and America to establish a so-called new world order, which will result in more intense and fatal oppression for the world's oppressed than the former international diktat; and due to conditions in the Middle East—where the Zionist regime is being strengthened, the Palestinian and Lebanese combatants are being disarmed, and the intifadah movement is being thwarted—it is necessary for all forces faithful to the revolution, irrespective of their political views, to come together on common points and basic principles of the revolution. As the esteemed leader said, the faithful need to stop all types of conflicts, controversies, and thoughtless clashes. These events only disgrace the pious and satisfy the enemies of Islam.

Tehran Militant Clergy Association, in compliance with the directives of the esteemed leadership, announces its readiness to attend a joint meeting with all the esteemed 'ulema and clergy with varying political positions to exchange views on important national issues.

As in the past, we extend our hand for unity, understanding, and further coordination toward the dear clergy. We warmly shake the hands of all those who serve Islam and the Islamic system and of the sincere followers of the esteemed leader of the revolution.

3. In his remarks, the esteemed leader mentioned a multi-phased cultural and political offensive against the revolution, the system, and divine Islamic values "by opportunistic elements trying to use cultural and intellectual measures." These groups abuse the country's

cultural and artistic resources and its open atmosphere by using the press, publications, films, the cinema, and cultural and artistic circles to question the gains of the Islamic system, the principles of the revolution, and divine values. They tarnish the pure face of the Islamic Revolution.

While clearly feeling the threat of these plots, we warn each and every member of the Muslim nation, the committed cultural forces, and all the supporters of the revolution to beware of this offensive the major objective of which is to separate the nation from the system and to weaken the revolution's popular support. We warn the nation to confront this offensive in a correct and principled way and to mobilize all their resources to increase and extend the culture of pure Mohammedan Islam. All the interested organs are duty bound, on the basis of the esteemed leader's decree and their canonical and legal duties, to set aside haughtiness and pride in the face of this cultural and political current and to carry out their mission by adopting a decisive and legal stance. Naturally, the esteemed 'ulema and clergy, may their shadows be lengthened, have a special duty and mission in keeping the people immune from cultural plots and to propagate the genuine Islamic and revolutionary culture, and they will certainly do their best in carrying out this mission.

4. One of the other points emphasized by the esteemed leader for the officials, those serving the system, and the esteemed 'ulema and clergy was the need for them to refrain from worldliness and the desire for luxury. The esteemed 'ulema and clergy are aware that the main asset of this committed and effective strata throughout its thousand-year history has been simplicity in life and temperance in formalities and luxuries.

Divine words can penetrate the people's souls only when they are genuinely manifested in deeds and life. Even though the majority of the dear 'ulema and clergy have shunned worldly ties and material wants from the outset of their monastic life and have freed their being of all carnal wishes, the existence of elements with temporal inclinations can harm the entire venerable clerical society.

The duty of the Islamic system's officials here is noteworthy due to the authority they enjoy and the national wealth they have in their hands. They can always fall into the trap of temporal and luxurious desires.

As the esteemed leader of the revolution said, irrespective of their rank, respected officials should live within acceptable limits regarding luxuries and waste. They should also reduce to the minimum their social and administrative expenses and learn from the political and social character of the Prophet 'Ali. They should also take as an example the way in which he ruled, and not waste, squander national wealth, or spend money unnecessarily.

In conclusion, we beseech God Almighty to grant more blessings to this nation; to bless the soul of our deceased imam, may his soul be sanctified; and to lengthen the blessed shadow of the esteemed leader of the revolution, Ayatollah Khamene'i, over the Islamic ummah. God's peace and blessings be upon you.

[Signed] The Tehran Military Clergy Association.

## Pakistan

### Sharif Sends Greetings to Baltic Leaders

*BK0909153991 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif sent greetings messages to the presidents of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on attaining independence. In separate messages to the three leaders, he said Pakistan always supported the right to self-determination and it welcomes the independence of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. The prime minister said Pakistan decided to recognize the new states and desires establishment of relations with them in all fields so as to promote beneficial cooperation both at the bilateral and international levels.

### Bhutto Remarks on Nuclear Issue 'Irresponsible'

*BK0909154291 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Sheikh Rashid Ahmad, the prime minister's adviser on information and broadcasting, said that the Kashmir dispute is a question of life and death for Pakistan that will continue to provide moral and political support to the Kashmiri people. Addressing a news conference in Karachi this afternoon, he said it is the duty of the United Nations to have the Kashmir dispute settled in accordance with its relevant resolutions, as it did in the case of the Gulf. The information adviser said Pakistan also wants a peaceful and honorable settlement of the Afghan problem.

Answering a question about former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's statement about Pakistan's nuclear program, Sheikh Rashid Ahmad said her statement is highly regrettable and irresponsible. By making such a statement, she has not done any service to the nation.

Replying to another question, the information adviser said Nawaz Sharif's government is strong and stable and the question of the formation of a national coalition government does not arise at all. He criticized the frustrated politicians who claim to be the champions of democracy but are talking about the imposition of martial law.

### 'Concern' Expressed to India Over Train Incident

*BK1009042991 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] Pakistan expressed concern over yesterday's firing incident on a train in Sirhind, India. Three Pakistanis were injured in the incident. The Indian deputy high

commissioner was summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Islamabad yesterday and was apprised of Pakistan's concern. He was told to ask his government for immediate an investigation and to inform the Pakistani Government about the outcome.

The Pakistani high commissioner in New Delhi has established contact with the Indian authorities in order to provide assistance to the injured Pakistanis.

### Recent Indian Atrocities in Kashmir Condemned

*BK0709131391 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1300 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] Pakistan has strongly condemned the recent upsurge in the atrocities being committed by the Indian security forces in occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Briefing newsmen in Islamabad today, a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs quoted reports reaching Pakistan as saying that Indian military and paramilitary forces killed more than 100 innocent Kashmiris since the 14th of last month. They also destroyed dozens of houses and cordoned off entire localities in Srinagar, Anantnag, Kupwara, Baramula, and a number of other towns. The spokesman also lamented the grim conditions in the hospitals in occupied Kashmir, where wounded were being denied medicines and urgent medical attention. The spokesman called upon the international community to take note of the deteriorating situation in occupied Kashmir and to adopt urgent measures to stop the carnage in the valley.

### Need To Resolve Regional Disputes Emphasized

*BK0709055791 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] Pakistan emphasized the need to take notice of different disputes and make every possible effort to solve those disputes on the basis of principles of the movement to the ministerial conference of the Nonaligned Movement in Accra. This was stated by Pakistani delegation leader Shaharyar Khan while taking part in the discussion on prevention of the regional disputes. He said the regional disputes are a severe danger to peace and stability in South Asia. In Occupied Kashmir, people's large scale movement is the outcome of keeping them deprived of their right of self-determination, he added.

Replying the Indian delegation's denial statement on giving international status to the Kashmir issue, Shaharyar Khan said the Kashmir issue exists in the UN security council's agenda and UN military observers are present on the line of control. He said this question cannot be put forward for confirmation that this issue has come up due to interference as 4,500 Indian forces have been deployed in Occupied Kashmir. More than 4,000 innocent civilians have been killed and Indian human rights organizations have criticized violations of human rights there.

Meanwhile, the Pakistani delegation leader met with the foreign ministers of Malaysia, Iran, and Uganda and exchanged views on matters of bilateral interest as well as the Nonaligned Movement.

### Economic, Trade Links Pact Reached With PRC

*BK0909162091 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 9 Sep 91*

[Text] Pakistan and China have agreed to expand bilateral economic and trade cooperation and have identified a number of steps to achieve the objective. This was decided at a meeting between the Chinese delegation led by Mr. Gu Yonjiang and the federal production minister, Mr. Islam Nabi, in Islamabad today. During the meeting, the Chinese side agreed to send expert groups to Pakistan to study the possible areas of further collaboration.

### Policies Said Improving Economic Situation

*BK0609162191 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] An impressive increase of nearly 24 percent in exports and an increase of $330 million in the foreign currency accounts have been achieved as a result of the package of incentives announced by the government. Simultaneously, the current account deficit has come down by $500 million. A federal Finance Ministry spokesman in an interview with the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN said that this is the first time that external resources are being transferred to Pakistan as a result of the concrete steps taken by the government. The spokesman said that the industrial sector suffered heavily due to nationalization of the private sector industries during the seventies. The mismanagement and inefficiency resulting from this policy and bureaucratic control ruined a number of industrial units. Privatization of industries will not only reduce the burden on the monetary system, but a huge amount will also be saved that is being spent on rehabilitation of unproductive units, the spokesman added.

### Corporation Gives Checks to Small Depositors

*BK0609132191 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] Under the prime minister's directive, the National Investment Credit Finance Corporation has so far distributed checks worth about 4 crore 64 lakh rupees among the small depositors in Lahore, Gujranwala, Multan, Faisalabad, Bahawalpur and Sargodha.

### Air Force Mirage Jet Crashes During Training

*BK0809154491 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] A Mirage fighter plane of the Pakistan Air Force on a regular training mission crashed near Hayatabad area of Peshawar this morning. The pilot of the plane

was killed, according to a press release of the Inter-service Public Relations. One person was killed and two others were injured due to the crash. Investigations have been ordered to ascertain the causes of the crash.

## Sri Lanka

### President Deplores Unconstitutional Methods

*BK0809124191 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 8 Sep 91*

[Text] President Ranasinghe Premadasa revealed yesterday that vested interests in Sri Lanka and from abroad had approached him with the promise of unlimited financial assistance and any other material assistance that he would require if only he reversed his decision to ban the operations of jackpots and casinos in this country. Because of his steadfast principles and his enduring love sense of undying patriotism for his motherland and his close proximity to millions of suffering families who were affected by the daily gambling menace, he had told the group of power-hungry, money-hungry evildoers that he will leave no stone unturned to ensure that their skimming mines together with their social evils will be eliminated for all times for the greater good of our nation. President Premadasa said this yesterday in his address to the United National Party [UNP] national executive committee meeting at the Sri Kotte party headquarters which marked the party's 45th founding anniversary.

President Premadasa pledged to safeguard the democratic administrative system even by sacrificing his life. He emphasized that he would not permit casino operators or racketeers to suppress the ballots. The president stressed that he had worked honestly to create a truly democratic government. In this context, the president said he acted to remove social evils, such as jackpot machines and casinos and also to close down the Israeli interest section. The latter measure was taken due to the injustice caused to the Palestinians and in honor of the United Nations. He stressed that he would not betray the sovereignty of Sri Lanka for such narrow gains. He warned that if a country allows another government to maintain bases, it would lead to an erosion of people's sovereignty. Developing countries which have been under foreign rule should be extra-vigilant. The new constitution was presented by former President J.R. Jayewardene. The president recalled that Mr. Jayewardene had pointed out that a person who was returned to power at a small electoral level was unable to solve problems and that we should draw up our constitution by looking at the developing world. We have a history of 2,500 years. In contrast, America has a history of only 200 years. The president also recalled how Mr. Jayewardene told him that in comparison, our system lacked something. Pointing out the need for such a constitution in 1977, the UNP obtained a five-sixth majority in the elections. Later, the constitution created by Mr. Jayewardene was maintained by making occasional amendments. Changes should be made to suit the needs of the time. Accordingly, the constitution had already been amended on 16 occasions. The constitution of the UNP has been based on this constitution. If any members were against that policy, there was a procedure to be followed; that is to present proposals within the party and obtain the approval of the party. Later, the government should take necessary constitutional action in that regard. However, such action was not taken. Without doing so, the signatures of some MP's had been obtained to impeach the president after conspiring for three to four months. The president said that there was no need to resort to such hidden actions in a civilized society where there was freedom of expression.

### Rally by 8 Dissident Legislators Draws 10,000

*BK1009134291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1314 GMT 10 Sep 91*

[Text] Colombo, Sept 10 (AFP)—Eight dissident MPs from the ruling United National Party (UNP) launched their first public meeting Tuesday before a massive crowd to drum up support to oust President Ranasinghe Premadasa, eyewitnesses said.

All eight legislators sacked from the UNP for openly supporting an anti-Premadasa campaign addressed a gathering estimated at over 10,000 people tightly packed inside a market square in Nugegoda in the suburbs of Colombo.

Witnesses said crowds had also thronged roads leading to the venue to hear rebel leaders Lalith Athulathmudali and Gamini Dissanayake speak on their constitutional campaign to overthrow Premadasa.

The speakers vowed to press ahead with their public campaign despite death threats to the organisers of the meeting.

The dissidents, together with 39 other UNP lawmakers, have signed an unprecedented resolution to impeach Premadasa on a wide range of charges. Premadasa has responded by suspending Parliament for a month till September 24.

The rebel lawmakers are trying to oust Premadasa, scrap the executive presidency and restore parliamentary democracy.

Athulathmudali said legislators were only expressing their constitutional right though Premadasa has described the moves as a conspiracy to overthrow him and has expressed fears for his life.

Athulathmudali, a former national security minister who resigned from the Cabinet August 29, said he and the other seven MP's had been unjustly expelled from the UNP and would take their case to the Supreme Court.

## Reportage on Continued Fighting Around Mullaitivu

### 226 LTTE Rebels Killed

*BK0609112491 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 6 Sep 91*

[Text] The security forces continue their operation against the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] in the north. Colonel Sarath Moonesinghe told newsmen that 226 LTTE terrorists were killed so far in the ongoing operation of the security forces in the Mullaitivu area. The operation, which commenced on the 29th of last month, is reported to be one of the major ones against the LTTE. The entire district of Mannar and a part of Vavuniya are now under curfew.

State Minister for Information A.J. Ranasinghe, Presidential Adviser on International Relations Bradman Weerakoon, and the director of information Dr. (Sunanda Maduwa Bandara) attended the cabinet news briefing yesterday.

### Security Forces Overrun LTTE Base

*BK0709112091 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] A major LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] base has been overrun by the security forces in Mullaitivu. Official sources told LANKAPUVATH that terrorists, who earlier in the operation lost 226 cadres, suffered further heavy losses. The sources said that the ground troops with strong air support routed the terrorists and overran the Suganathan LTTE base on Thursday [5 September]. It was situated north of Weli Oya, located at the point between Gajabapura and Mullaitivu.

In an operation carried out yesterday, security forces also cleared the Mankulam area in Trincomalee of terrorists.

### Mine Explosion Kills 4 Soldiers in Northern Area

*BK0709132291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1259 GMT 7 Sep 91*

[Text] Colombo, Sept 7 (AFP)—A powerful Tamil guerrilla mine exploded under a security force vehicle in northern Sri Lanka on Saturday killing at least four soldiers and wounding five, military sources here said.

Troops were on a routine patrol in Mannar district when the surface mine went off, instantly killing four army soldiers, the sources said, adding the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas were blamed for the attack.

The coastal Mannar region is known to teem with the separatist Tiger guerrillas who frequently move out from their jungle hideouts to ambush army patrols.

The area's close proximity to neighbouring India has made it a strategic base for the LTTE, which smuggles arms between the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu and northern Sri Lanka.

Saturday's ambush came as hundreds of government troops consolidated areas captured from the LTTE in northeast Mullaitivu district after six days of fierce battles in the region.

A military spokesman here said limited operations against the Tigers continued Saturday in curfew-bound Mullaitivu while most troops began consolidating captured positions.

"There seems to be less contact with the enemy now. There is a lot of movement by our men in the Weli Oya area in Mullaitivu district," the spokesman said, adding that field commanders gave no further details.

Official estimates put army losses at 13 dead and 261 LTTE rebels killed since fighting broke out in Mullaitivu September 2, a month after troops routed the militants in a major battle for the northern Elephant Pass military base. The island newspaper quoted army commander Hamilton Wanasinghe as saying security forces had encircled a large number of LTTE guerrillas in Mullaitivu, which is a transit point for LTTE supplies between north and east.

The Tigers were in disarray and pleading for reinforcements from their main stronghold in Jaffna, further north, the newspaper quoted Wanasinghe as saying.

The LTTE is fighting to carve out a separate nation called Eelam in the northeast for Sri Lanka's two million minority Tamils, who constitute a majority in the region.

The Tigers resumed their independence campaign in June 1990 following the collapse of 14 months of peace talks with the Sri Lankan Government. The renewed fighting has left more than 10,000 dead.